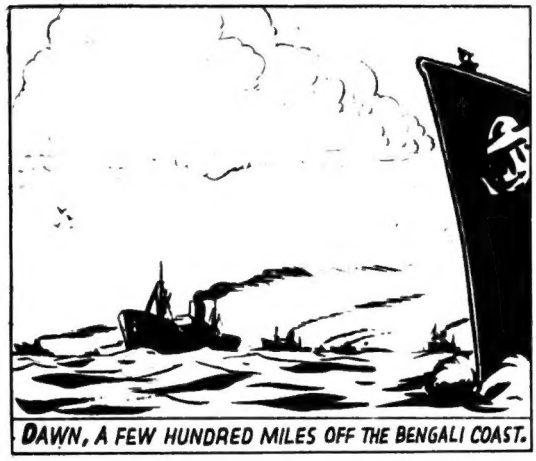
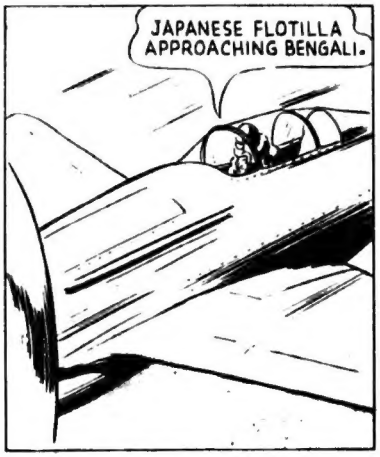

DAWN, A FEW HUNDRED MILES OFF THE BENGALI COAST.


JAPANESE FLOTILLA APPROACHING BENGALI.

SIXTY-TO-SEVENTY-TRANSPORTS--GUARDED-BY-A-STRONG NAVAL-ESCORT---

BENGALI! GOODNIGHT!
THE LAST PLACE WE EXPECTED!
2-2
WITHIN MINUTES, THE VITAL MESSAGE REACHES ALLIED HEADQUARTERS! —

WE'VE ONLY GOT A SMALL GARRISON AT MORRISTOWN ON THE BENGALI COAST, COLONEL.
WHO COULD IMAGINE THE JAPS WOULD ATTACK BENGAL!?

BUT IF THEY CAN CROSS BENGALI AND REACH THE GULF, OUR SUPPLY LINES TO THE ORIENT WILL BE CUT IN HALF!
2-3

WHY HASN'T BENGALI BEEN PREPARED FOR THIS?
BECAUSE THE BENGALI JUNGLES HAVE ALWAYS BEEN REGARDED AS IMPASSABLE. EVIDENTLY, THE JAPS DON'T THINK SO.

LET'S ADMIT IT--WE'VE BEEN CAUGHT OFF-GUARD. WE MUST ACT FAST.
HOW? IT'LL TAKE MONTHS TO MOVE TROOPS TO BENGALI!
tomorrow DRAFTING DIANA

BENGALI HAS OUR STRATEGY BOARD STUMPED. EVIDENTLY, THOSE JUNGLES HAVE NEVER BEEN EXPLORED.
I'VE SENT FOR MAJOR PALMER OF ARMY INTELLIGENCE.

MAJOR PALMER, WE NEED INFORMATION ON BENGALI AT ONCE. YOU KNOW THAT COUNTRY, DON'T YOU?
ONLY SLIGHTLY, COLONEL. I'VE NEVER BEEN TO THE INTERIOR.

BUT MY NIECE, DIANA PALMER, HEADED SEVERAL EXPEDITIONS THRU THAT SECTION--AND KNOWS IT LIKE A BOOK.
GOOD! SEND FOR HER AT ONCE.
2-4

HELLO, DIANA. THIS IS UNCLE DAVE. CAN YOU COME DOWN TO MY OFFICE? WHY? BECAUSE YOU'RE IN THE ARMY NOW.

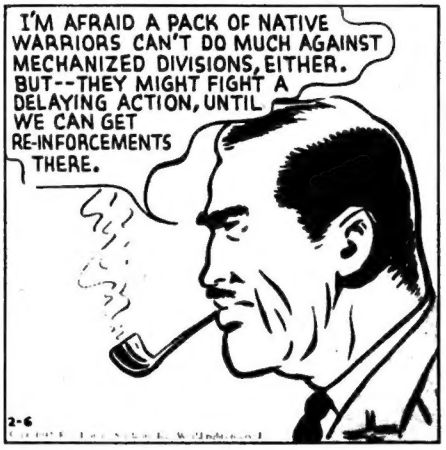
AND THAT'S THE STORY, MISS PALMER. A POWERFUL JAP FORCE IS APPROACHING BENGALI BY SEA. WE HAVE NO DEFENSES! YET WE CANNOT PERMIT THEM TO CROSS BENGALI TO THE GULF.
2-5

UNFORTUNATELY, WE HAVE LITTLE INFORMATION ABOUT BENGALI. IT'S SO REMOTE -- UNKNOWN. THAT'S WHY YOU'RE HERE.
I'VE BEEN THERE-- SEVERAL TIMES.

AND I KNOW A MAN LIVING THERE -- WHO CAN STOP THEM.
A MAN? LET'S BE SENSIBLE, MISS PALMER. NO ONE MAN CAN STOP MECHANIZED DIVISIONS.

YOU DON'T KNOW THIS ONE. HE CAN STOP ANYTHING.
tomorrow -COURIER-

THIS MAN I SPEAK OF IS CALLED THE PHANTOM. HE CAN RALLY ALL THE PEOPLE OF THE JUNGLE TO FOLLOW HIM AGAINST THE JAPS.


I'M AFRAID A PACK OF NATIVE WARRIORS CAN'T DO MUCH AGAINST MECHANIZED DIVISIONS, EITHER. BUT--THEY MIGHT FIGHT A DELAYING ACTION, UNTIL WE CAN GET RE-INFORCEMENTS THERE.
2-6

GRANTED THIS -- THIS PHANTOM CAN HELP US, HOW CAN WE REACH HIM? BY CABLE?
I'M AFRAID NOT. IF I KNOW HIM -- AND I DO -- HE WON'T WAIT FOR ORDERS TO START ACTION.

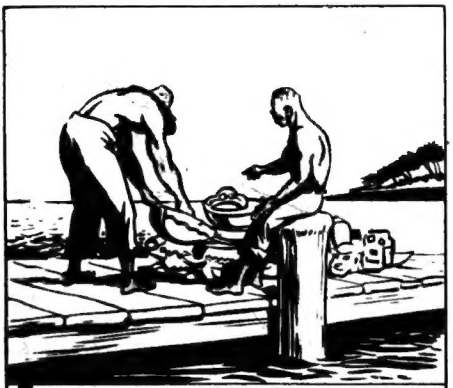
BUT I KNOW HE'LL WANT TO WORK WITH YOU. AND IF YOU HAVE ANY INSTRUCTIONS FOR HIM, I'LL TAKE THEM TO HIM, MYSELF!
tomorrow - A CRAZY WAR

DIANA, I DON'T LIKE THIS -- YOUR FLYING INTO THE DANGER ZONE.
UNCLE DAVE, I DIDN'T TELL MAMA. WILL YOU TELL HER, AFTER I'M GONE?

HERE ARE THE INSTRUCTIONS YOU ARE TO DELIVER, MISS PALMER. DESTROY THEM, IF YOU ARE CAPTURED. BUT-- GOOD LUCK!
THANK YOU.
2-7

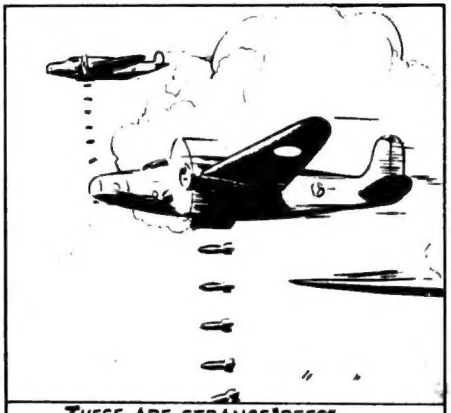
IT WON'T BE LONG NOW!
DIANA IS EXCITED -- BUT NOT BECAUSE OF THE DANGER AND IMPORTANCE OF HER MISSION. SHE IS GOING TO SEE HIM AGAIN!

CRAZY, SENDING A WOMAN TO DO A MAN'S WORK.
WELL, IT'S A CRAZY WAR.
NEXT WEEK- TIMO, SON OF GURAN.



TIMO, SON OF GURAN OF THE PYGMY BANDAR HAS GONE TO A DISTANT PROVINCE ON THE BENGALI COAST, TO TRADE HIS HANDICRAFT GOODS.

THEY HEAR A FAINT BUZZING, NOT UNLIKE THAT OF A SWARM OF BEES--THEY CAN SEE THEM HIGH IN THE SKY---



THESE ARE STRANGE "BEES"-- THAT LAY STRANGE "EGGS"--

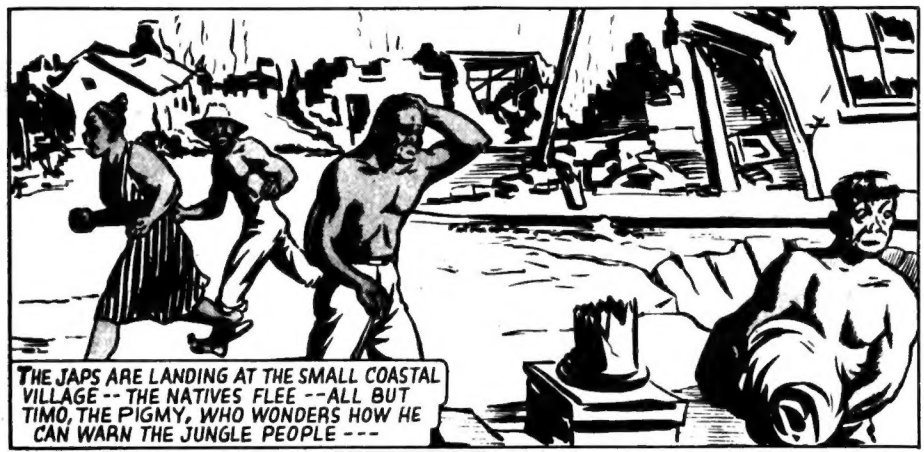
TO THE NATIVES OF THE SMALL COASTAL VILLAGE, IT IS AS THOUGH THE END OF THE WORLD HAS COME.

TIMO WALKS THRU THE WRECKAGE--HE LOOKS INTO THE SKY-- THE DEADLY FLYING MACHINES HAVE GONE AWAY---

BUT SOMETHING ELSE IS COMING IN THEIR PLACE--A VAST FLOTILLA OF SHIPS, CARRYING GRIM WARRIORS OF NIPPON...

TIMO, THE PYGMY SON OF GURAN OF THE BANDAR, IS NOT FRIGHTENED! HOW, HE ASKS HIMSELF, CAN HE **WARN** THE JUNGLE OF THIS TERROR?

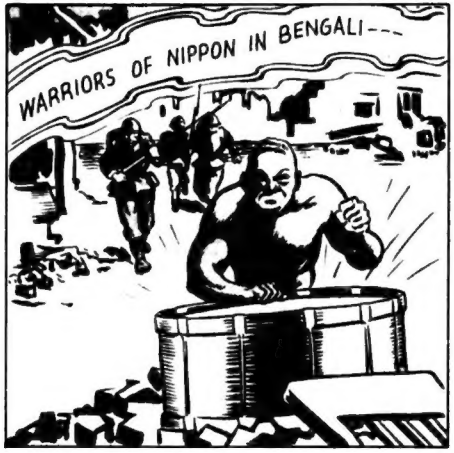
THEN, HE SEES A BASS DRUM, WHICH HAS BEEN BLOWN OUT OF A CABARET BY AN EXPLOSION--



THE JAPS ARE LANDING AT THE SMALL COASTAL VILLAGE -- THE NATIVES FLEE --ALL BUT TIMO, THE PIGMY, WHO WONDERS HOW HE CAN WARN THE JUNGLE PEOPLE ---

THE SCREAMING, TERRORIZED POPULATION EVACUATES THE VILLAGE--ALL BUT TIMO WHO HAS WORK TO DO!

THE JAPS INVADE BENGALI...
R-12


WARRIORS OF NIPPON IN BENGALI---

--WARRIORS OF NIPPON IN BENGALI--

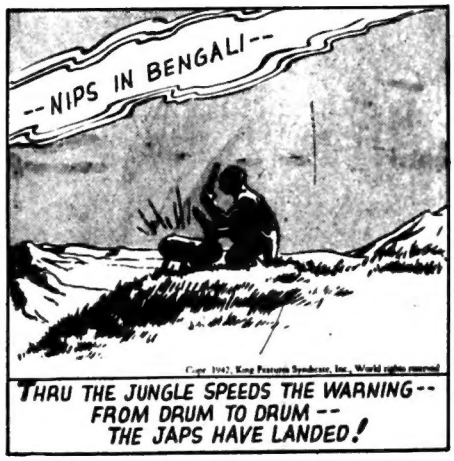
JUST A NATIVE--
GONE CRAZY--

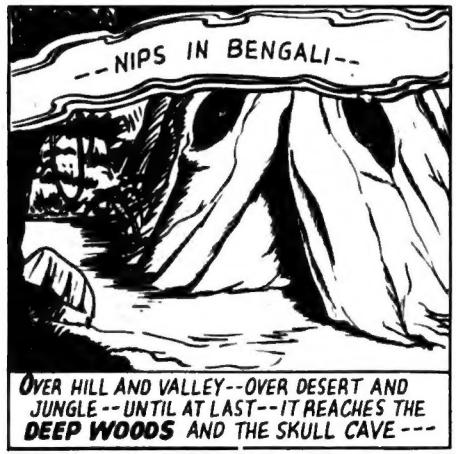
WARRIORS-OF-NIPPON-IN BENGALI-
THE JAP INVADERS WATCH TIMO AND LAUGH, THINKING HE IS A CRAZED NATIVE---

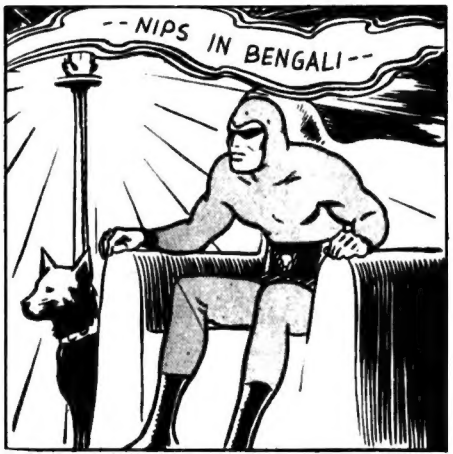
BUT TIMO CONTINUES TO BEAT THE BASS DRUM--HIS EARS PRICKED--WAITING--WAITING

--WARRIORS OF NIPPON IN BENGALI--
THEN, AT LAST, HE HEARS WHAT HE HAS BEEN WAITING FOR--THE DISTANT BEAT OF A JUNGLE DRUM--TAKING UP THE MESSAGE--

R-13
TIMO SCOOTS AWAY. THE JAPS SHOOT AT HIM--BUT HIS WORK IS DONE!


--NIPS IN BENGALI--
THRU THE JUNGLE SPEEDS THE WARNING--FROM DRUM TO DRUM--THE JAPS HAVE LANDED!

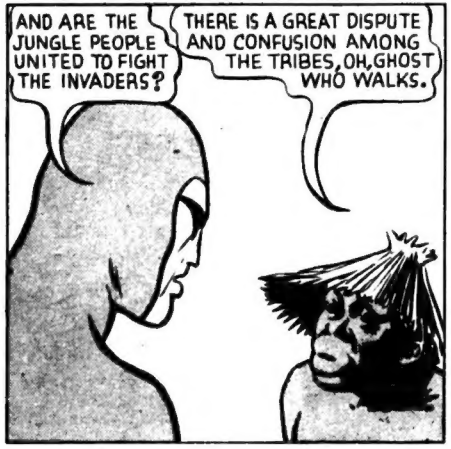

--NIPS IN BENGALI--
OVER HILL AND VALLEY--OVER DESERT AND JUNGLE--UNTIL AT LAST--IT REACHES THE DEEP WOODS AND THE SKULL CAVE---


--NIPS IN BENGALI--

WE WILL AROUSE THE JUNGLE! WE WILL FIGHT TO THE LAST MAN--UNTIL THE JAPS ARE DRIVEN INTO THE SEA!
R-14
NEXT WEEK-JUNGLE CAMPAIGN

MAYBE HE WON'T BE IN THE DEEP WOODS--FOR ALL I KNOW, HE'S AT THE NORTH POLE--NO--HE'S GOT TO BE IN THE DEEP WOODS!
DIANA SPEEDS TO BENGALI, TO FIND THE PHANTOM.
THERE ARE NO MODERN DEFENSES IN BENGALI. THE JAPS WILL TRY TO PUSH THRU THE DEEP WOODS TO REACH THE SOUTH COAST.
THAT MEANS THE END OF THE ALLIES' SUPPLY LINES IN THE ORIENT. WE'VE GOT TO STOP THE JAPS IN THE DEEP WOODS!
R-16
GURAN, SEND MEN OF THE BANDAR TO ALL THE TRIBES OF THE JUNGLE. ALL JUNGLE PEOPLE MUST UNITE TO FIGHT THE JAPANESE INVADERS.
tomorrow = CHIEF BIG WIND
--AND THE GHOST WHO WALKS ASKS THAT ALL JUNGLE PEOPLE UNITE TO FIGHT THE WARRIORS OF NIPPON WHO HAVE INVADED BENGALI.
THE WARRIORS OF NIPPON ARE NOT INVADING THE JUNGLE. THEY ARE INVADING A DISTANT PROVINCE OF BENGALI.
R-17
CHIEF BIG WIND, LEADER OF A POWERFUL FEDERATION OF TRIBES, HAS HIS SAY. . .
THE WARRIORS OF NIPPON HAVE NOT ATTACKED US. THIS BATTLE IS NOT OUR BATTLE. WHY SHOULD WE LEAVE OUR TRIBES TO FIGHT?
THEREFORE, TELL THE PHANTOM THAT I, CHIEF BIG WIND, SAY WE SHOULD DO NOTHING.
TOMORROW = PRO AND CON
THE PHANTOM SAYS THAT THE WARRIORS OF NIPPON WILL ATTACK THE JUNGLE, CHIEF BIG WIND.
THAT IS IMPOSSIBLE.
THE JUNGLES ARE TOO THICK--WE ARE TOO FAR AWAY--THE WARRIORS OF NIPPON WILL NEVER ATTACK US--
THE PHANTOM SAYS THEY HAVE MANY NEW WEAPONS--MACHINES THAT FLY AND DROP THUNDERBOLTS--HUTS OF IRON THAT MOVE ON THE GROUND AND CANNOT BE STOPPED, NOR BE PIERCED BY THE STRONGEST SPEAR--
R-18
I, CHIEF BIG WIND, DO NOT BELIEVE THIS. THE WARRIORS OF NIPPON ARE AFRAID TO ATTACK US. WE ARE SAFE. TELL THE PHANTOM THAT.

HAVE THE MEN OF BANDAR SPOKEN TO ALL THE TRIBES OF THE JUNGLE, GURAN?
WE HAVE TOLD THEM THAT THE WARRIORS OF NIPPON WILL ATTACK THE JUNGLE, AS YOU SAID.


AND ARE THE JUNGLE PEOPLE UNITED TO FIGHT THE INVADERS?
THERE IS A GREAT DISPUTE AND CONFUSION AMONG THE TRIBES, OH, GHOST WHO WALKS.

SOME WISH TO FIGHT -- OTHERS SAY THE WARRIORS OF NIPPON WILL NOT ATTACK US, BECAUSE THE JUNGLE IS TOO THICK AND WE ARE TOO FAR AWAY.
R-19
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SOME OF THE TRIBES ARE FIGHTING AND ARGUING AMONG THEMSELVES. OH, THERE IS GREAT CONFUSION.
THEN THEY'LL HAVE TO LEARN THE TRUTH THE HARD WAY.

THE PHANTOM SAYS THE WARRIORS OF NIPPON WILL ATTACK THE JUNGLE.
HE SAYS WE MUST LEAVE THE JUNGLE TO FIGHT THEM.
CHIEF BIG WIND AND CHIEF THIN BIRD DISCUSS JUNGLE POLITICS. . . .

I, CHIEF BIG WIND, SAY THE JUNGLE IS TOO THICK. WE ARE TOO FAR AWAY. THEY WILL NEVER ATTACK US.
I AGREE.

I, CHIEF THIN BIRD, SAY THAT DISTANT BATTLE IS NOT OUR BATTLE. WE ARE SAFE. WE SHOULD DO NOTHING.
I AGREE.

WE ARE THE TWO MOST BRILLIANT AND INTELLIGENT MEN IN ALL THE JUNGLE.
I AGREE.
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R-20
tomorrow = THE HARD WAY.

I, CHIEF THIN BIRD, SAY THE WARRIORS OF NIPPON WILL NEVER ATTACK US. I SAY WE SHOULD DENOUNCE THE PHANTOM FOR TRYING TO LEAD US INTO BATTLES THAT ARE NOT OUR BATTLES.

I, CHIEF BIG WIND, AGREE. WE SHALL DENOUNCE HIM TO ALL THE JUNGLE PEOPLE AND--LOOK!

R-21
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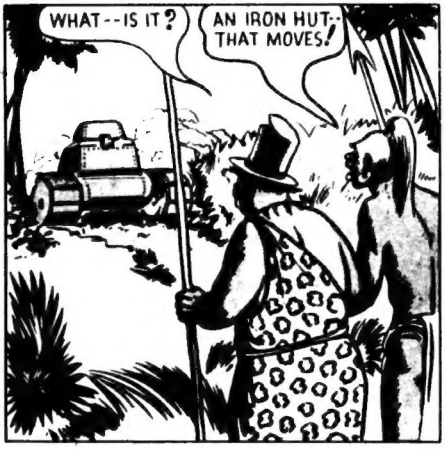
NEXT WEEK - THE FIGHT IS ON!


WHAT--IS IT?
AN IRON HUT--THAT MOVES!

THE NIPS!

R-R3

IT CAN'T BE--

--BUT IT IS!

WHO'S THAT RUNNING, AS IF CHASED BY DEMONS, GURAN?
IT IS CHIEF BIG WIND, WHO SAID THE WARRIORS OF NIPPON COULD NOT AND WOULD NOT INVADE THE JUNGLE.
R-R4

THE NIPS ARE HERE!

OUR SPEARS HAD NO MORE EFFECT ON THEM THAN A MOSQUITO ON A RHINO! HOW CAN WE FIGHT THEM?

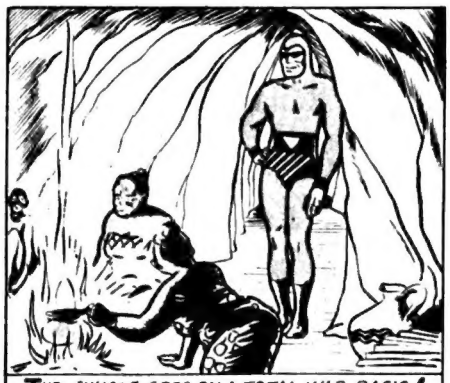
YES, CHIEF BIG WIND. WE KNOW THE WARRIORS OF NIPPON ARE HERE. OUR MEN OF BANDAR HAVE BEEN WATCHING. ONLY A FEW ENEMY SCOUTING TANKS ARE HERE, SO FAR.
TANKS, THEY CALL THEM? IRON ELEPHANTS, WITH A CANNON FOR A TRUNK!
R-R5

WE MUST USE WHAT WE HAVE--OUR KNOWLEDGE OF THE JUNGLE AND OUR COURAGE! CALL ALL THE CHIEFS OF THE JUNGLE. WE MUST ACT AT ONCE!
tomorrow—DEEP WOODS RALLY

ALL THE CHIEFTAINS OF THE JUNGLE, THE LLONGO, THE WAMBESI, FROM HILLS AND VALLEYS -- ALL COME TO THE DREADED **DEEP WOODS!**

THIS IS THE HOME OF THE BANDAR, THE PYGMY POISON PEOPLE -- A PLACE FEARED BY ALL THE JUNGLE PEOPLE -- THIS IS THE HOME OF THE GHOST WHO WALKS -- THEY SEE FOR THE FIRST TIME, HIS LEGENDARY SKULL CAVE --

THEY BEHOLD HIS FABULOUS SKULL THRONE -- AND SEE (MANY FOR THE FIRST TIME) -- THE GIVER OF THE JUNGLE LAW AND PEACE -- THE PHANTOM!


THE JUNGLE GOES ON A TOTAL WAR BASIS! FIRES ARE BUILT IN CAVES ONLY -- JUNGLE BLACK-OUT!

SENTRIES ARE POSTED -- ON ALL JUNGLE PATHS AND STREAMS ---

SPOTTERS WAIT IN THE HIGHEST JUNGLE TREES, READY TO REPORT THE FIRST SIGN OF THE MYSTERIOUS MACHINES THAT FLY LIKE BIRDS ---

THE JUNGLE IS GEARED FOR ACTION -- TO FIGHT THE 20TH CENTURY INVADER WITH METHODS OF ANTIQUITY...

THE PHANTOM TAKES HIS WAR COUNCIL ON A TOUR OF INSPECTION OF THE JUNGLE DEFENSES --

A JAPANESE WHIPPET TANK APPROACHES, CLANGING NOISILY IN THE JUNGLE SILENCE --

CONTINUED-

THE JAP TANK CLANKS ON IN THE JUNGLE STILLNESS...
3-2

SUDDENLY, THE PATH CAVES IN--THE TANK TUMBLES INTO A CONCEALED PIT!

WE'LL HAVE TO GET THE CREW OUT OF THERE! THEY'RE PROBABLY ARMED TO THE TEETH.
AS THE WARRIORS CELEBRATE THEIR CAPTURE OF THE MODERN MONSTER--

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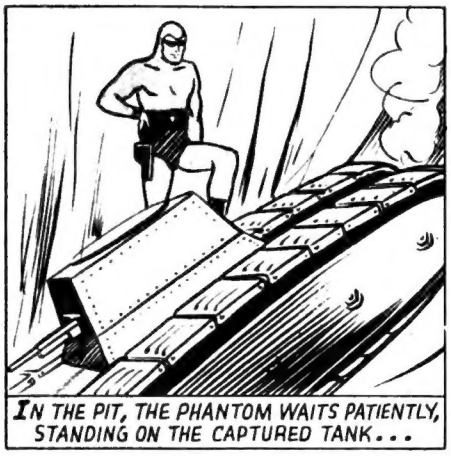
THE PHANTOM CLIMBS DOWN INTO THE PIT TO CAPTURE THE TWO-MAN CREW!


IN THE PIT, THE PHANTOM WAITS PATIENTLY, STANDING ON THE CAPTURED TANK...

SOON, THE TURRET IS CAUTIOUSLY OPENED-

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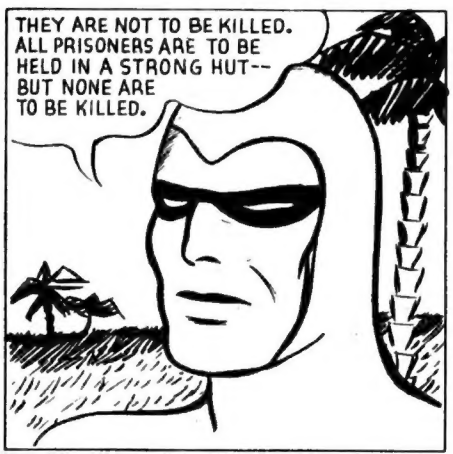
STEEL HANDS GRIP HIM, DRAGGING HIM FROM HIS STEEL NEST--

3-3
THE SECOND CREW MEMBER SURRENDERS INSTANTLY--THE CAPTURED JAPS ARE DRAGGED AWAY BY THE NATIVES...

IN THE VILLAGE, THE CAPTURED JAPS ARE TIED TO THE STAKE...

WHAT'S GOING ON HERE? WHY THE DANCE OF DEATH?
WE HAVE CAPTURED PRISONERS. NOW, WE KILL THEM.


THEY ARE NOT TO BE KILLED. ALL PRISONERS ARE TO BE HELD IN A STRONG HUT--BUT NONE ARE TO BE KILLED.

YOU MUST SPEAK IN JEST, OH, GHOST WHO WALKS! WE DIDN'T ASK THEM TO COME HERE! THEY CAME OF THEIR OWN WILL--TO KILL US! THEREFORE, THEY MUST BE KILLED!
3-4
TOMORROW = AW—

THE PHANTOM SAYS WE CANNOT KILL THE PRISONERS.
BUT WE ALWAYS KILL THE PRISONERS OF WAR.

YOU MUST LEARN THE RULES OF MODERN WARFARE. PRISONERS ARE NOT KILLED. THEY ARE JAILED. YOU MUST GUARD THEM AND FEED THEM.
FEED THEM ?

WHO EVER HEARD OF SUCH A THING ?
WE MUST OBEY, BUT IT IS A STRANGE RULE.
3-5

THEY COME TO KILL US -- WE CAPTURE THEM -- WE FEED THEM -- AW-
VERY STRANGE, VERY STRANGE.

HELLO, DIANA!
WHY--IT'S YOU, LIEUTENANT BYRON!
DIANA ARRIVES AT MORRISTOWN ON THE SOUTH BENGALI COAST.

I BEG YOUR PARDON-- IT'S CAPTAIN BYRON NOW!
I HAD A STIFF FIGHT WITH THE BOYS, BUT I WON-- SO I'M ASSIGNED TO YOU.

WHAT'S THE NEWS FROM THE NORTH ?
THE JAPS LANDED AND ARE STARTING INTO THE JUNGLE. IF THEY GET THRU -- I DON'T KNOW WHAT WE'LL DO HERE.

I WON'T BE HERE. I WANT TO GO TO THE JUNGLE -- TO THE DEEP WOODS AT ONCE.
AT ONCE ? IT'LL TAKE WEEKS BY SAFARI. BESIDES -- IT'S TOO DANGEROUS FOR YOU!
3-6
tomorrow- A LADY HAS HER WAY

I DON'T INTEND TO WALK TO THE DEEP WOODS. WE'LL FLY.
FLY ? HOW? THERE ARE NO LANDING-FIELDS IN THE JUNGLES. YOU KNOW THAT.

WE'LL USE A SEAPLANE. WE CAN LAND ON A LAKE. I HAVE INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE PHANTOM, FROM HEADQUARTERS.
THEY'RE DRAFTING HIM, TOO ?

WHAT CAN HE AND THOSE NAKED SAVAGES DO AGAINST A PANZER DIVISION ?
WE'LL SEE. LET'S GO.

DIANA DARLING -- SEEING YOU AGAIN MEANS MORE THAN I CAN--
STICK TO BUSINESS, CAPTAIN. CUPID DIDN'T SEND ME HERE. IT WAS THE WAR DEPARTMENT.
3-7
Continued-

HOW ARE WE GOING TO FIND THE PHANTOM? SEEMS LIKE A WILD GOOSE CHASE, DIANA.
NOT AT ALL. HE'LL BE IN THE DEEP WOODS. HE'S GOT TO BE!

THERE'S A LAKE A FEW MILES FROM THE DEEP WOODS. WE'LL LAND THERE-- AND WALK THE REST OF THE WAY.
THEN, ALL WE'VE GOT TO WORRY ABOUT ARE WILD ANIMALS, WILD MEN--AND THE JAPS--
3-9

WILD ANIMALS OR WILD JAPS--NO MATTER WHICH, I'VE GOT TO GET THIS DISPATCH CASE TO HIM!
IMPORTANT, EH?

IT CONTAINS INSTRUCTIONS, DIRECT FROM ALLIED H.Q. I'M TO DESTROY IT, IF CAPTURED. BUT I'M NOT GOING TO BE CAPTURED!
tomorrow - THE WATCHERS

WE'RE ALMOST THERE, BYRON.
WHAT WILD COUNTRY! I NEVER KNEW THERE WERE SO MANY TREES IN THE WORLD.

AS FAR AS WE KNOW--ONLY A FEW ADVANCE JAP TANK UNITS HAVE PENETRATED THIS FAR SOUTH. WITH A LITTLE LUCK, WE WON'T BUMP INTO ANY.

THERE'S OUR LAKE, NOW! WE'LL LAND HERE. IT'S ONLY TWO OR THREE HOURS BY FOOT TO THE DEEP WOODS.
3-10

BETTER WEAR YOUR RAINCOAT, DIANA. IT'S RAINING CATS AND DOGS.
FOR DEFENSE
BUY

KEEP A TIGHT GRIP ON THAT DISPATCH CASE!
DON'T WORRY! I AM!

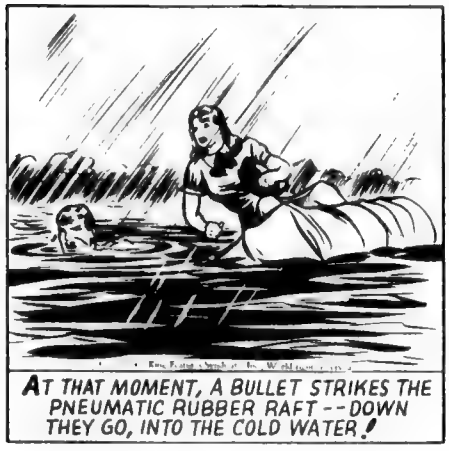
SO FAR--SO GOOD.
AND IN A FEW HOURS--I'LL SEE HIM AGAIN!

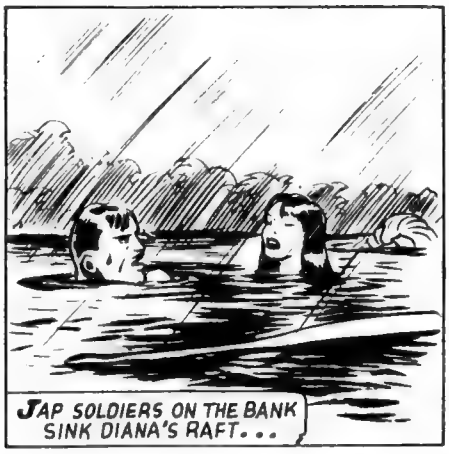
3-11

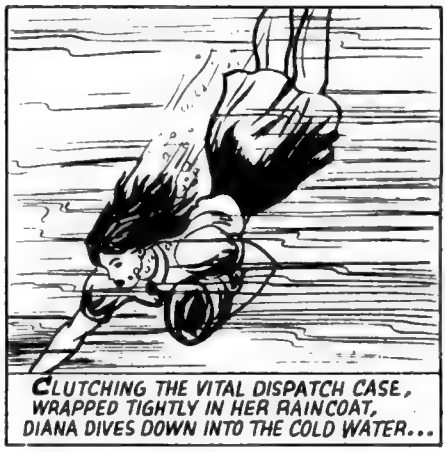
MIGOSH! BULLETS! SOMEBODY'S SHOOTING AT US!
FOR DEFENSE
BUY
3-12

JAP SOLDIERS -- IN THOSE BUSHES!
THE DISPATCH CASE!

HURRIEDLY, DIANA WHIPS OFF HER RAINCOAT, WRAPS IT AROUND THE DISPATCH CASE, TYING IT SECURELY WITH THE BELT--


AT THAT MOMENT, A BULLET STRIKES THE PNEUMATIC RUBBER RAFT -- DOWN THEY GO, INTO THE COLD WATER!


JAP SOLDIERS ON THE BANK SINK DIANA'S RAFT...


CLUTCHING THE VITAL DISPATCH CASE, WRAPPED TIGHTLY IN HER RAINCOAT, DIANA DIVES DOWN INTO THE COLD WATER...

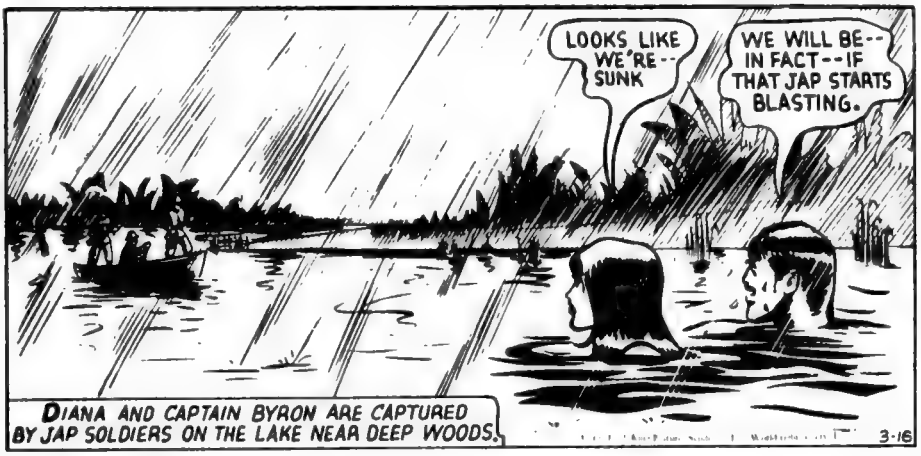
AT THE LAKE BOTTOM, SHE WORKS FRANTICALLY, TYING THE CASE TO A ROCK WITH A DANGLING SLEEVE OF THE RAINCOAT--

I'VE GOT TO REMEMBER THIS SPOT -- ABOUT A HUNDRED YARDS FROM SHORE -- OPPOSITE THOSE BIG TWIN OAKS!
3-13

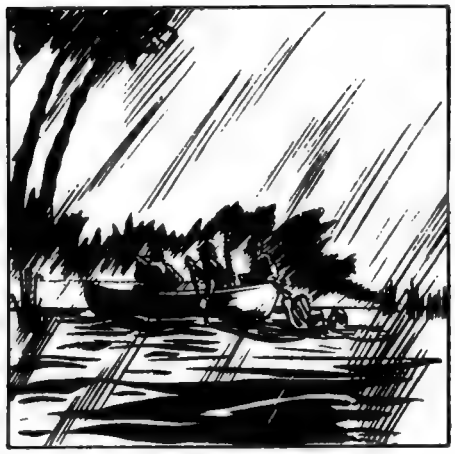
I WAS AFRAID YOU'D BEEN HIT--I THOUGHT YOU WERE NEVER COMING UP.
MAYBE I SHOULD HAVE STAYED AT THE BOTTOM OF THE LAKE--WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?

LET'S TRY TO REACH THE PLANE!
WE'D NEED AN OUTBOARD MOTOR. HERE THEY COME!
3-14

CONTINUED--


LOOKS LIKE WE'RE-- SUNK
WE WILL BE-- IN FACT--IF THAT JAP STARTS BLASTING.
DIANA AND CAPTAIN BYRON ARE CAPTURED BY JAP SOLDIERS ON THE LAKE NEAR DEEP WOODS.
3-16

THEIR WRISTS ARE TIED...



DIANA AND CAPTAIN BYRON ARE PULLED ASHORE BY THE JAP SOLDIERS---
3-17

THE PHANTOM IS ONLY A FEW MILES AWAY, DIANA TELLS HERSELF REPEATEDLY. HE'LL LEARN THAT SHE'S HERE. HE'S GOT TO!

LET ME UP! I CAN WALK!
THEY PAY NO HEED TO HIM --PULLING HIM ALONG THE ROUGH GROUND...

I SAID I CAN WALK-- LET ME UP-- YOU YELLOW BABOONS!

3-18

"WAIT," THE SOLDIER TELLS THE OTHER ONE. "THIS OFFICER MUST FIRST BE QUESTIONED BY OUR COMMANDER. THEN—WE'LL HAVE OUR FUN!...

YOU'LL PAY FOR THIS-- SOMEHOW-- SOMEDAY-- ALL OF YOU!
tomorrow- LIEUTENANT KURAKI

THE JAP SOLDIERS BRING THEIR PRISONERS BEFORE THE UNIT COMMANDER, LIEUTENANT KURAKI...

YOU ARE ENGLISH? AMERICAN?
AMERICAN.
3-19

YOU NEED NOT TREMBLE. FOR THE TIME BEING, YOU ARE QUITE SAFE, UNTIL I HAVE FULLY QUESTIONED YOU.

HOW--HOW DID YOU LEARN ENGLISH?
BY STUDY WE HAVE PREPARED FOR THIS--FOR YEARS.
3-20

WHAT ARE YOU--A WOMAN--DOING HERE?
IF YOU'VE PREPARED FOR YEARS, YOU SHOULD KNOW ALL THE ANSWERS.

I EXPECT MY QUESTIONS TO BE ANSWERED!

SOON, ALL YOU AMERICAN DOGS WILL LEARN PROPER RESPECT FOR YOUR SUPERIORS!

OW--MY HEAD--WHAT'S HAPPENED TO US?
WE'RE BEING HELD--BY A SMALL JAP TANK UNIT. THE LEADER, KURAKI, SPEAKS ENGLISH.
3-21

HE SAID HE'D BE BACK AT SUNDOWN TO QUESTION US. HE-HE'S A BEAST.
WHY DID I EVER LET YOU GET INTO THIS?

WE'RE ONLY--A FEW MILES FROM THE DEEP WOODS--IF ONLY WE COULD GET WORD TO--THE PHANTOM--!
MIGHT AS WELL WISH FOR THE MOON.

WHAT'S THE MATTER?
IT'S-KURAKI. HE'S COME BACK--OH BYRON, FOR THE FIRST TIME IN MY LIFE--I'M REALLY AFRAID!
CONTINUED—

WHAT IS YOUR MISSION? WHY ARE YOU HERE?
WE'RE SEARCHING FOR JUNGLE FLOWERS.

I HAVE INTERESTING METHODS OF MAKING YOU SPEAK THE TRUTH?

AS THE TWILIGHT JUNGLE SHADOWS DEEPEN, KURAKI CALLS TWO SOLDIERS--

I HID THE DISPATCH CASE AT THE BOTTOM OF--
DON'T TELL ME! THIS LOOKS LIKE TORTURE. THEY CAN'T FORCE ME TO TELL WHAT I DON'T KNOW!
3-23
tomorrow = FEAR

AS THE JUNGLE SHADOWS DEEPEN INTO NIGHT, THE JAPS LOSE INTEREST IN THEIR PRISONERS--FOR THE TIME BEING . . .

FIRES ARE LIGHTED, HASTILY-- THE SENTRIES ARE DOUBLED---

NERVOUSLY, THEY PEER INTO THE JUNGLE BLACKNESS.

3-24
DIANA REALIZES THAT NIGHT HAS TAKEN THE COCKINESS OUT OF THESE JAPS. THEY'RE AFRAID OF SOMETHING! WHAT IS IT?

AND NOW--WE WILL ATTEND TO YOU, CAPTAIN!

WHAT'S THAT?
3-25
A SOUND SUDDENLY COMES FROM THE JUNGLE--DIANA RECOGNIZES IT AS THE CHATTERING OF A MONKEY--

INSTANTLY, JAP SEARCHLIGHTS STAB THE JUNGLE DARKNESS--THEIR GUNS BLAZE AWAY--

THEY'RE SCARED STIFF OF SOMETHING! WHAT DO YOU SUPPOSE IT IS?
I WISH I KNEW! I'D PUT IN A DOUBLE ORDER, SPECIAL-DELIVERY!
tomorrow = LAW OF THE KNIFE

ORDER IS RESTORED IN THE JAP CAMP --- STILL, THEY STARE FEARFULLY INTO THE JUNGLE BLACKNESS -- AFRAID OF SOMETHING OUT THERE ---

I HAVE NO TIME TO WASTE. I WANT TO KNOW THE NUMBER AND LOCATION OF YOUR TROOPS!
SORRY. I'M A SCATTERBRAIN. CAN'T REMEMBER A THING.
3-26

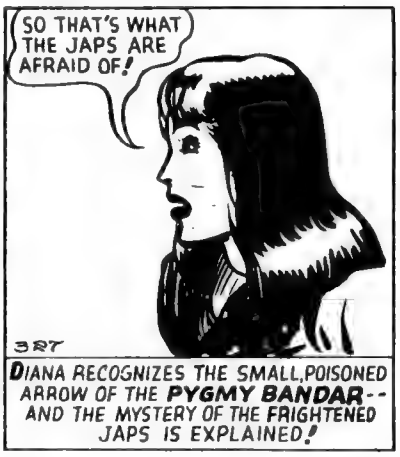
AT A WORD FROM ME, HE WILL SLIT YOUR THROAT LIKE THE PIG THAT YOU ARE.
HOLD ON! I'M NOT A SPY. I'M WEARING MY UNIFORM!

I DEMAND DECENT TREATMENT AS A PRISONER OF WAR, ACCORDING TO INTERNATIONAL LAW!
WE KNOW NO LAW! ONLY THE LAW OF THE KNIFE! SO-- SPEAK -- WHILE YOU CAN!

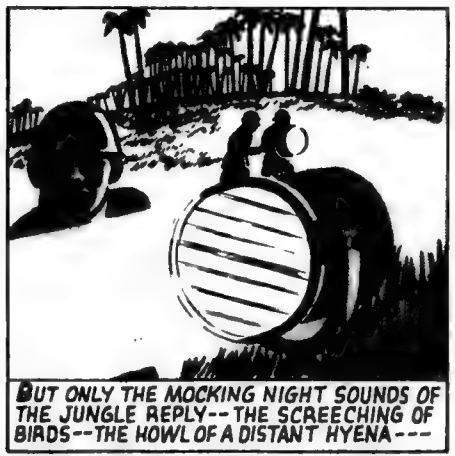
YOU CAN'T FORCE ME TO TALK!
SO SORRY, CAPTAIN! THEN I WILL GIVE THE ORDER TO ---

SUDDENLY, THE SOLDIER PITCHES FORWARD--

THE JAP CAMP TURNS INTO AN UPROAR, AS GUNS BLAZE--


SO THAT'S WHAT THE JAPS ARE AFRAID OF!
3-27
DIANA RECOGNIZES THE SMALL, POISONED ARROW OF THE PYGMY BANDAR -- AND THE MYSTERY OF THE FRIGHTENED JAPS IS EXPLAINED!

FOR A FULL TEN MINUTES, THE JAPS RAIN LEAD INTO THE JUNGLE DARKNESS--


BUT ONLY THE MOCKING NIGHT SOUNDS OF THE JUNGLE REPLY -- THE SCREECHING OF BIRDS -- THE HOWL OF A DISTANT HYENA ---

THAT WAS A PYGMY ARROW-- INSTANT DEATH--
A SHOT IN THE DARK--FROM BEHIND--! THE JAPS DON'T LIKE THE TASTE OF THEIR OWN MEDICINE -- THAT'S WHY THEY'RE AFRAID OF THE PYGMIES!

IF THE PYGMIES ARE WATCHING -- THEY'LL TELL THE PHANTOM ABOUT US -- OH, BYRON-- WE'VE STILL GOT A CHANCE--
IF KURAKI DOESN'T SLAUGHTER US-- FIRST!
3-28
CONTINUED-

I'LL CONTINUE WITH YOU TOMORROW! I ADVISE YOU TO BE PREPARED TO SPEAK! THERE WILL BE NO INTERRUPTIONS IN THE DAYLIGHT!

AND LIEUTENANT KURAKI RETIRES INTO HIS TANK, SAFE FROM THE MYSTERIOUS ARROWS OF THE PYGMIES...

THESE WOODS ARE FULL OF SPIDERS AND SNAKES.
NO SELF-RESPECTING BUG WOULD COME WITHIN A MILE OF THIS CAMP.
3-30

BESIDES, I'D PREFER THE COMPANY OF A SNAKE TO A JAP LIKE KURAKI ANY DAY.

NO POINT IN WAITING TO BE SLAUGHTERED. THAT KURAKI IS AFTER OUR SCALPS. LET'S MAKE A BREAK FOR IT.

JUST A FEW MORE FEET-- AND WE'LL BE OUT OF THE CLEARING--
3-31

BUT NOT ALL THE JAP SENTRIES ARE ASLEEP!

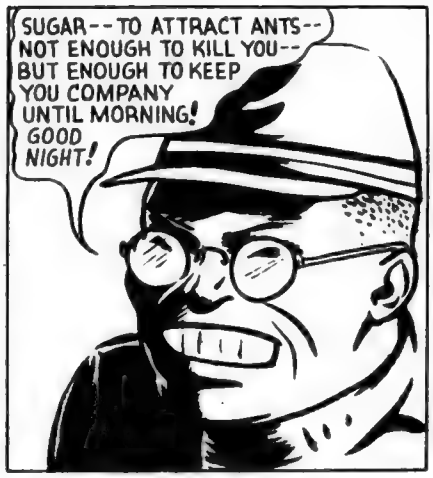
DIANA AND BYRON HUG THE EARTH, AS JAP BULLETS WHISTLE OVER THEM.

4-1
AND THE ATTEMPTED ESCAPE FAILS!

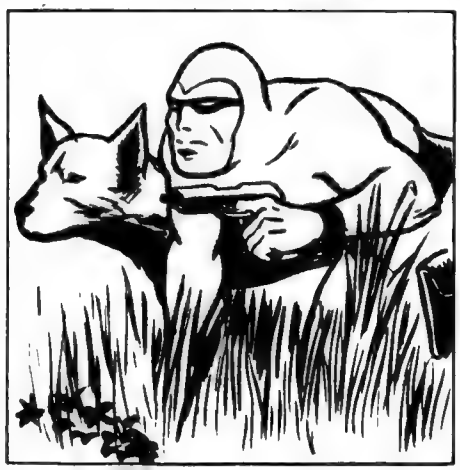
FROM THE TANK, LIEUTENANT KURAKI BARKS ORDERS--

AND DIANA AND BYRON ARE PEGGED SECURELY TO THE GROUND!

AFTER THEIR ATTEMPTED ESCAPE, DIANA AND BYRON ARE PEGGED TO THE GROUND -- A SOLDIER SPRINKLES THEM WITH SUGAR--



THE PHANTOM SPEEDS NOISELESSLY THRU THE DARK JUNGLE---"DEVIL" RACING ALONG AT HIS SIDE...



NEXT WEEK = PHANTOM BLITZ

BYRON--THOSE ANTS--I CAN'T STAND IT---
I KNOW--I KNOW--KEEP A GRIP ON YOURSELF!
4-6

A LONG GAUNT WOLF PADS SILENTLY OUT OF THE BUSHES--

"DEVIL"--
HIS SOFT NOSE RUBS AGAINST HER SHOULDER

THAT MEANS--THAT HE--IS HERE--
"DEVIL" MOVES OFF SILENTLY INTO THE BUSHES--AND DIANA IS FILLED WITH NEW HOPE AND STRENGTH.

THE PHANTOM MOVES CAUTIOUSLY AROUND THE JAP CAMP, SIZING UP THE SENTRIES---

THE STEEL HAND SUDDENLY SNAPS--SHUTTING OFF ANY OUTCRY---

--ONE HAMMER-BLOW OF THE FIST IS ENOUGH AND REQUIRES NO FOLLOW-UP--

4-7

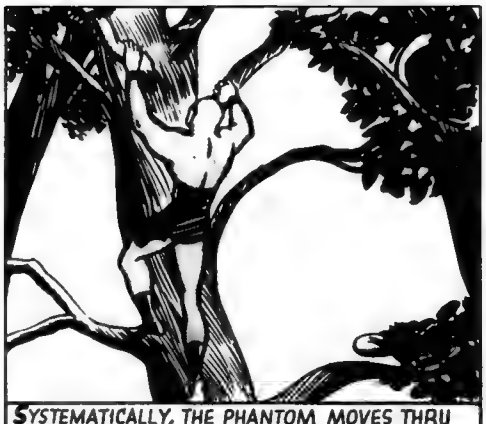
THE JAP SENTRY SUDDENLY TURNS--TO SEE THE AWESOME FIGURE COMING UP BEHIND HIM--

BUT THE JAP DOESN'T GET A CHANCE TO OPEN HIS MOUTH---

THIS IS WAR! IT'S YOUR LIFE--OR THE OTHER FELLOW'S--AND THE PHANTOM IS PLAYING FOR KEEPS!

4-8
THE PHANTOM MOVES SILENTLY ON--A ONE-MAN BLITZ!

AND ANOTHER JAP IS ACCOUNTED FOR!


SYSTEMATICALLY, THE PHANTOM MOVES THRU THE NIGHT--CLEANING UP THE SENTRIES---

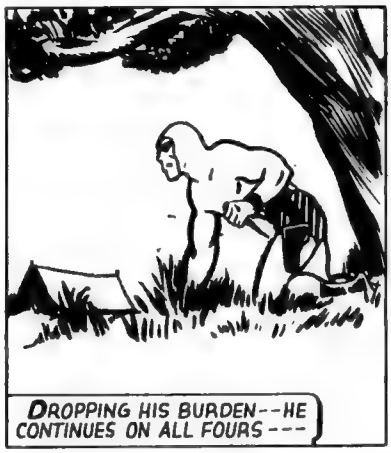
HE GOES AS SILENTLY AS A GREAT JUNGLE CAT-

4-9

DARLING--
-SSSSH--
4-10
TOMORROW = DAWN

AH--NOW FOR THOSE TWO PRISONERS--THE CAPTAIN--AND THE WOMAN!
AT DAWN, LIEUTENANT KURACHI IS AWAKENED BY A BANGING ON HIS TANK. HE STRETCHES HAPPILY---

FINISHING THE LAST OF THE SENTRIES--THE PHANTOM MOVES THRU THE SMALL, SLEEPING JAP CAMP---


DROPPING HIS BURDEN--HE CONTINUES ON ALL FOURS---

THE JAP CAMP IS IN A TURMOIL! EXCITEDLY, A SOLDIER POINTS--

THE WHITE PRISONERS HAVE VANISHED--AND IN THEIR PLACES--PEGGED TO THE GROUND ARE TWO OF THE SENTRIES! CONT'D.
4-11

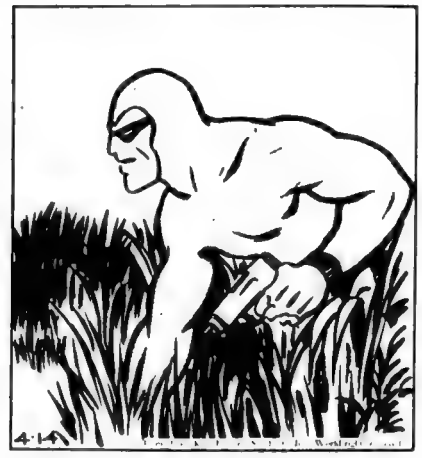
DIANA AND CAPTAIN BYRON DISAPPEAR FROM THE JAP CAMP. TIED IN THEIR PLACE ARE TWO JAP SOLDIERS--
THERE REMAINS ONLY ONE BAFFLING CLUE. ON EACH JAW IS A SMALL DEATH'S HEAD!

THE JAPS SCOUR THE SURROUNDING WOODS--BUT FIND NOTHING---
4-13

FOR THE FIRST TIME IN HIS RUTHLESS CAREER, LIEUTENANT KURACHI IS PUZZLED AND AFRAID-- HERE IS SOMETHING THAT HE CANNOT UNDERSTAND...

SHHH--
I DON'T HEAR ANYTHING--
AS THE PHANTOM LEADS DIANA AND BYRON AWAY FROM THE JAP CAMP--HE SUDDENLY HALTS-

WHAT-- IS IT?
HOLD HER. WAIT HERE, "DEVIL".


4-14

THE PHANTOM'S KEEN EAR HAS CAUGHT THE SOUND OF TWO ROVING JAP SCOUTS---

SILENTLY, DEADLY, THE PHANTOM SPRINGS ON THE TWO JAP SCOUTS--

4-15

I'M GLAD--HE'S ON OUR SIDE---

I'LL SEND THE BANDAR BACK FOR THEM. THEY MAY HAVE SOME INFORMATION WE CAN USE.

NOW--IF YOU PLEASE--
YES--OF COURSE.
4-16

I'VE WAITED A LONG TIME TO--
I WONDERED WHEN YOU WERE GOING TO-- UMMM--

WHAT AM I DOING HERE? CAN YOU TELL ME THAT?

THE SKULL CAVE--IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME. I FEEL LIKE I'M HOME AGAIN.
CAN'T SAY THAT I DO.

DARLING--I ALMOST FORGOT ABOUT THE DISPATCH CASE!
THAT CAN WAIT. YOU MUST FEEL UNCOMFORTABLE AFTER LAST NIGHT'S ANTS. TAKE A SHOWER, AND USE THIS OINTMENT.

A SHOWER--IN THE DEEP WOODS?
DOWN THAT PATH--
4-17

AH--NOW IF SOMEONE WOULD ONLY INVENT A HOT WATERFALL--

THOSE--UH--LITTLE FELLOWS--ARE THEY FRIENDLY?
NOT TO JAPS. THEY'RE RUNNING A CONTEST TO SEE WHO CAN GET THE MOST EVERY DAY.

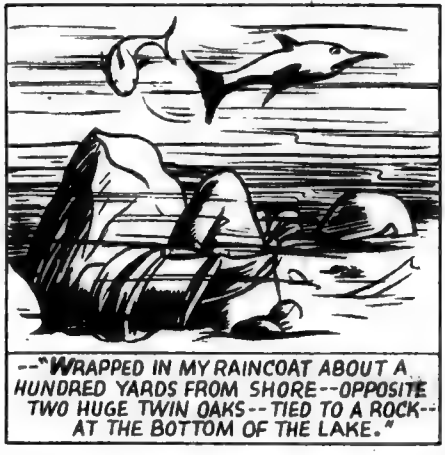
WE'VE ONLY COME AGAINST SCATTERED ADVANCE UNITS SO FAR. I ONLY WISH I HAD SOME IDEA OF WHAT THE ALLIED NATIONS WERE PLANNING FOR THIS SECTOR. I'D LIKE TO CO-ORDINATE OUR EFFORTS.
4-18

WITHOUT KNOWING ANYTHING OF THE GRAND STRATEGY OF OUR SIDE--IT'S DIFFICULT TO---
BUT THAT'S JUST WHY WE'VE COME! DIANA HAS INSTRUCTIONS FOR YOU FROM ALLIED H.Q.

GOOD! THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT I NEED! WHERE ARE THE INSTRUCTIONS?
IN A DISPATCH CASE, WHICH DIANA LEFT SOMEWHERE AT THE BOTTOM OF THE LAKE--NEAR THAT JAP CAMP!
CONTINUED—

AH--I FEEL WONDERFUL! THAT WATERFALL WAS THE BEST SHOWER I'VE EVER HAD.
MAYBE YOU CAN HAVE ONE INSTALLED IN YOUR APARTMENT, DIANA. I THINK I COULD USE A BATH, MYSELF.

DIANA, DO YOU REMEMBER WHERE YOU LEFT THAT DISPATCH CASE ?
YES, I WAS CAREFUL TO REMEMBER. I LEFT IT IN THAT LAKE --
4-20


--"WRAPPED IN MY RAINCOAT ABOUT A HUNDRED YARDS FROM SHORE--OPPOSITE TWO HUGE TWIN OAKS--TIED TO A ROCK--AT THE BOTTOM OF THE LAKE."

BUT, DARLING -- YOU HAVE TO PASS THAT JAP CAMP TO GET IT. MUST YOU GO ?
I'M AFRAID I MUST--AT SUNDOWN.

I MUST HAVE THAT DISPATCH CASE AT ONCE. THE JAPS' BIG PUSH IS COMING SOON. I MUST KNOW WHAT THE ALLIES WANT ME TO DO.

BUT MUST YOU GO BACK THERE -- ALONE ?
IT'S BETTER THAT WAY, DIANA. I CAN MOVE MORE QUIETLY AND QUICKLY--ALONE.

YOU AND BYRON STAY HERE IN THE DEEP WOODS. IT'S THE SAFEST PLACE. THE JAPS HAVEN'T BEEN ABLE TO PENETRATE IT, YET--
I'LL BE BACK SOON--
4-21

tomorrow - KURACHI TAKES NO CHANCES -

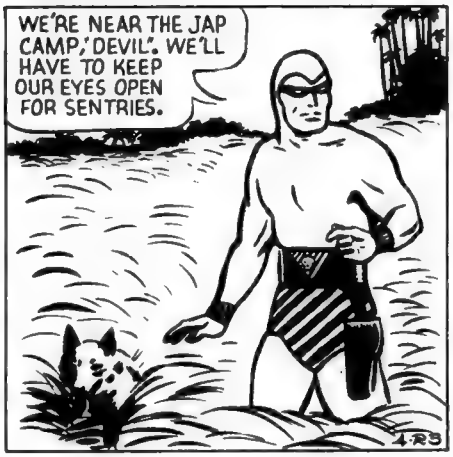
AROUND THE JAP CAMP, A THIN WIRE IS CAREFULLY STRUNG AND CONCEALED IN THE BUSHES--

THE WIRE IS ATTACHED TO A SERIES OF PORTABLE BATTERIES, PRODUCING A CURRENT STRONG ENOUGH TO STUN A LARGE BEAST -- OR A MAN ---

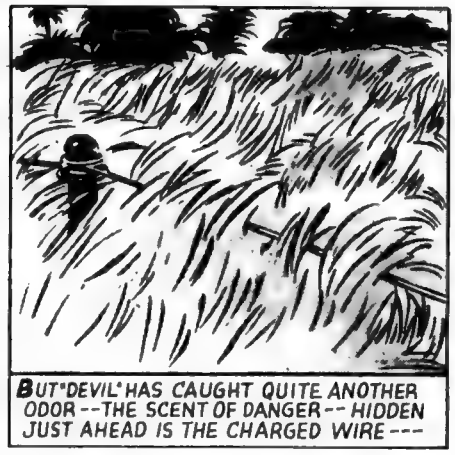
AFTER THE MYSTERY OF THE DEATH'S HEADS -- KURACHI IS TAKING NO MORE CHANCES WITH UNKNOWN PROWLERS---

WE'LL SKIRT THE JAP CAMP TO REACH THE LAKE, "DEVIL". IT'S THE SHORTEST ROUTE AND I WANT TO BE OUT OF THESE WOODS BEFORE DAWN.
4-22

WATCH THAT LIGHT BULB. IF IT GOES OUT -- THAT MEANS SOMETHING IS ON OUR WIRE!


WE'RE NEAR THE JAP CAMP, "DEVIL". WE'LL HAVE TO KEEP OUR EYES OPEN FOR SENTRIES.
4R3

QUIET, "DEVIL". THIS IS NO TIME TO BE SMELLING RABBITS!
"DEVIL" SUDDENLY GROWLS ---


BUT "DEVIL" HAS CAUGHT QUITE ANOTHER ODOR -- THE SCENT OF DANGER -- HIDDEN JUST AHEAD IS THE CHARGED WIRE ---

"DEVIL" -- WHY ARE YOU GROWLING? - WHAT IS IT?
4R4

YOU'RE IMAGINING THINGS, "DEVIL". NOW, BE QUIET.

THEN SUDDENLY -- THE SEARING, STUNNING IMPACT -- OF THE THIN, CONCEALED, CHARGED WIRE --!

DON'T -- COME -- NEAR -- "DEVIL" --
HELD BY THE POWERFUL ELECTRIC CURRENT OF THE HIDDEN WIRE -- THE PHANTOM SINKS SLOWLY, AGONIZINGLY -- TO THE GROUND

HA -- THE LIGHT'S OUT! WE'VE CAUGHT SOMETHING ON OUR WIRE!

4R5
CONTINUED—

RUN--
"DEVIL"--
RUN--

"DEVIL" NEVER QUESTIONS A COMMAND FROM HIS MASTER--HE MELTS INTO THE WOODS--AS JAP BULLETS WHIZ AFTER HIM---
4-27

The JAPS TRAP THE PHANTOM WITH A CONCEALED ELECTRIC WIRE-
"DEVIL" ATTEMPTS TO GUARD HIS MASTER. ONE OF THE JAPS RAISES HIS BAYONET...

A JAP SOLDIER SIGNALS THE "ALL-CLEAR" TO THE CAMP...

LIEUTENANT KURACHI TURNS OFF THE SWITCH--SHUTTING OFF THE JUICE---

4-28

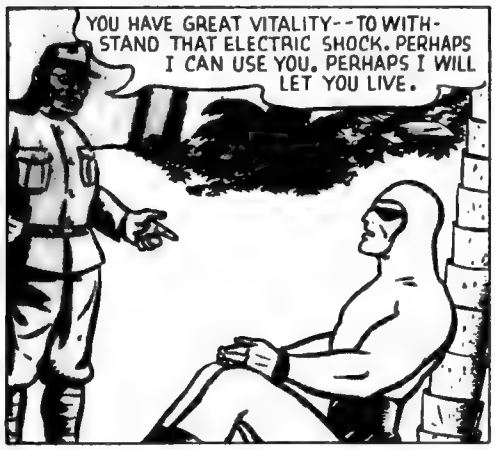
WHAT--IS THIS?
KURACHI HAS CAUGHT STRANGER GAME THAN HE IMAGINED!

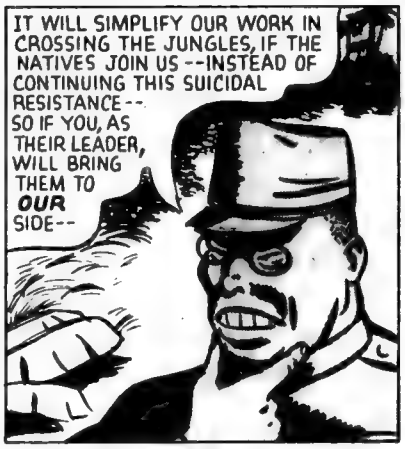
KURACHI LOOKS THOUGHTFULLY AT HIS STRANGE PRISONER--

THEN, HE NOTICES THE SKULL RING. "NO DOUBT," HE SAYS, "YOU ARE THE ONE WHO ABDUCTED MY WHITE PRISONERS--AND LEFT THE MARK OF THAT RING ON MY SOLDIERS' JAWS!"

ALSO, I'VE WONDERED HOW THESE CRUDE SAVAGES LEARNED SUCH EXCELLENT MILITARY TACTICS. SOMEHOW, I THOUGHT THERE MUST BE A TRAINED MIND GUIDING THEM!
4-29

YOU ARE THE ONE! AND WHOEVER YOU MAY BE, IT'S GOING TO GO HARD WITH YOU--AS HARD AS I CAN MAKE IT!
TOMORROW--ON SECOND THOUGHT


YOU HAVE GREAT VITALITY--TO WITHSTAND THAT ELECTRIC SHOCK. PERHAPS I CAN USE YOU. PERHAPS I WILL LET YOU LIVE.


IT WILL SIMPLIFY OUR WORK IN CROSSING THE JUNGLES, IF THE NATIVES JOIN US--INSTEAD OF CONTINUING THIS SUICIDAL RESISTANCE-- SO IF YOU, AS THEIR LEADER, WILL BRING THEM TO OUR SIDE--

OF COURSE, I WILL NOT RELEASE YOU UNTIL THEY HAVE JOINED US, AND SURRENDERED THEIR CRUDE WEAPONS--
NO---
4-30

WOULDN'T YOU PREFER TO THINK IT OVER? NO? THEN, IT WILL BE MY GREAT PLEASURE TO EXECUTE YOU. THE METHOD IS MY OWN INVENTION!
tomorrow= KURACHI METHOD

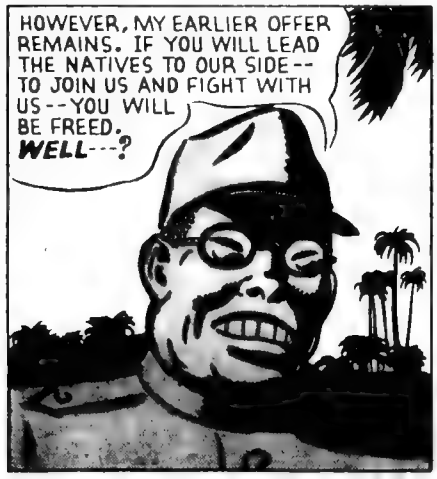
KURACHI GIVES A HAND-GRENADE TO A JAP SOLDIER---

THE GRENADE IS TIED TO THE PHANTOM'S LEG-

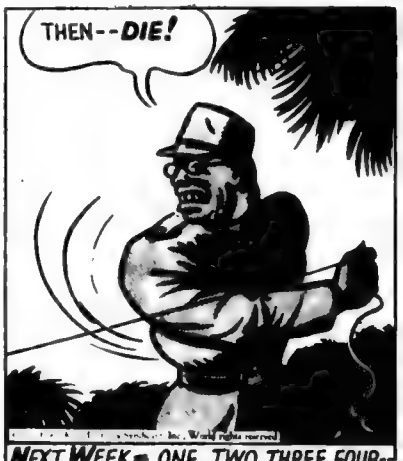
5-1
A LONG STRING IS ATTACHED TO THE RELEASE-PIN OF THE GRENADE---

YOU REALIZE, OF COURSE, WHAT HAS BEEN DONE. WHEN I PULL THIS STRING-- THE GRENADE WILL EXPLODE YOU INTO BITS!
tomorrow= LAST CHANCE

WHEN I PULL THIS STRING, THE FUSE OF THAT GRENADE WILL IGNITE! THEN, AFTER FOUR OR FIVE SECONDS--YOU WILL BE BLOWN APART!
THE JAPS TIE A HAND-GRENADE TO THE PHANTOM'S LEG---


HOWEVER, MY EARLIER OFFER REMAINS. IF YOU WILL LEAD THE NATIVES TO OUR SIDE-- TO JOIN US AND FIGHT WITH US--YOU WILL BE FREED. WELL---?

5-2
GRIMLY, SILENTLY--THE PHANTOM SHAKES HIS HEAD--NO---


THEN--DIE!
NEXT WEEK= ONE, TWO, THREE, FOUR--

THE PHANTOM STIFFENS, AS THE RELEASE PIN IS PULLED ON THE HAND GRENADE TIED TO HIS LEG--

ONE--TWO--THREE--FOUR---
FIVE SECONDS WILL PASS--THEN THE EXPLOSION--

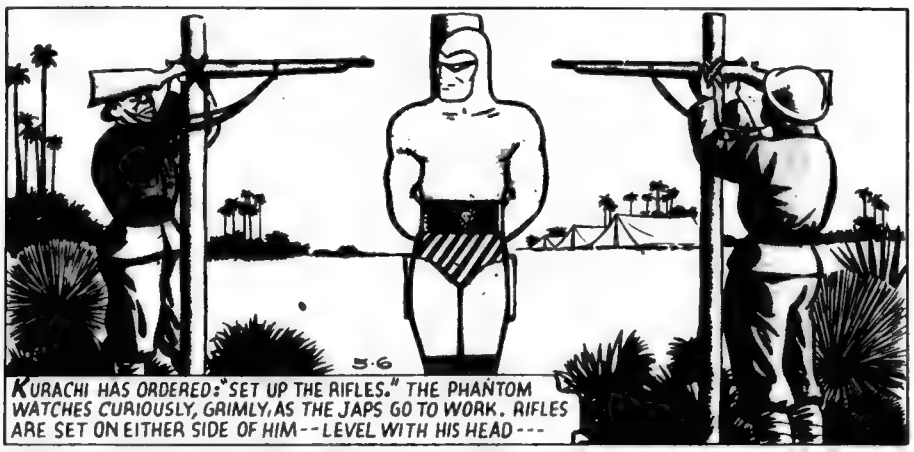
--FIVE! HOHO--HAHA--HEHE--HOHO--IT WASN'T LOADED!
5-4

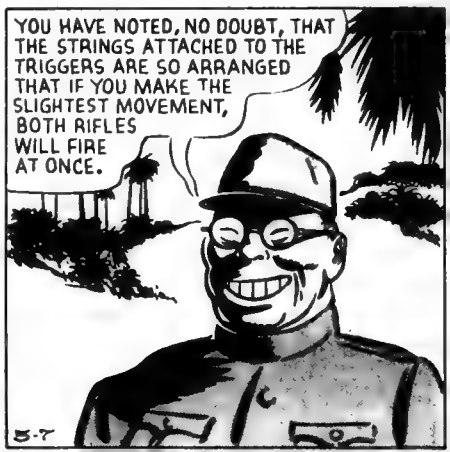
THE GRENADE NOT LOADED--HOHO--HAHA--
HEHE--HEHE
HOHO HOHO HOHO
THE JAPS ENJOY THEIR LITTLE JOKE---

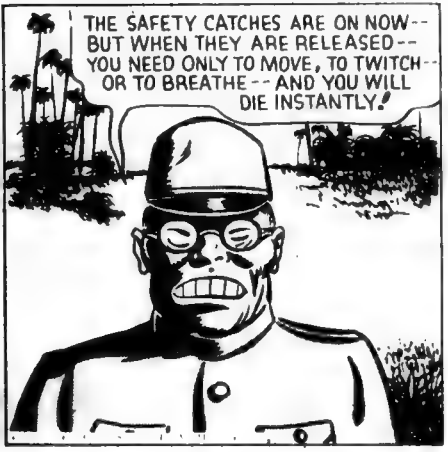
I LET YOU LOOK AT DEATH, THINKING IT WOULD MAKE YOU MORE SENSIBLE. NOW--WILL YOU BRING THE NATIVES TO FIGHT ON OUR SIDE--?
NO!

FOOL! THEN I SHALL SIT AND WATCH--WHILE YOU KILL YOURSELF! SET UP THE RIFLES!
5-5
WHAT NEW DEVILTRY IS KURACHI PLANNING?

YOU'RE GOING TO A LOT OF TROUBLE. WHY NOT JUST USE A BULLET--AND FINISH IT?
TOO CRUDE. WE JAPANESE PREFER FINESSE.

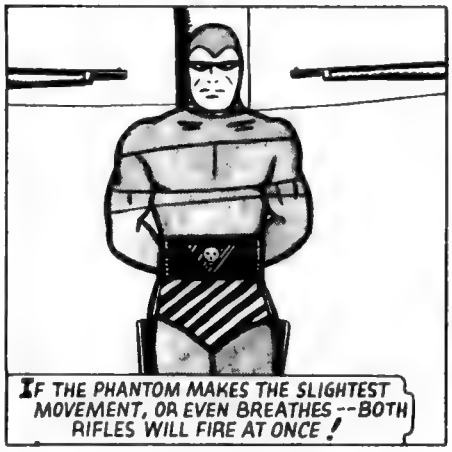

5-6
KURACHI HAS ORDERED: "SET UP THE RIFLES." THE PHANTOM WATCHES CURIOUSLY, GRIMLY, AS THE JAPS GO TO WORK. RIFLES ARE SET ON EITHER SIDE OF HIM--LEVEL WITH HIS HEAD---


YOU HAVE NOTED, NO DOUBT, THAT THE STRINGS ATTACHED TO THE TRIGGERS ARE SO ARRANGED THAT IF YOU MAKE THE SLIGHTEST MOVEMENT, BOTH RIFLES WILL FIRE AT ONCE.
5-7


THE SAFETY CATCHES ARE ON NOW-- BUT WHEN THEY ARE RELEASED-- YOU NEED ONLY TO MOVE, TO TWITCH-- OR TO BREATHE -- AND YOU WILL DIE INSTANTLY!

AND NOW-- WE SHALL SEE!
STRINGS, FASTENED TIGHTLY TO THE TRIGGERS, ARE DRAWN BACK AROUND THE RIFLE HANDLES--THEN WOUND TIGHTLY ABOUT THE PHANTOM--WHAT IS KURACHI'S PLAN?

RELEASE THE SAFETY CATCHES!


IF THE PHANTOM MAKES THE SLIGHTEST MOVEMENT, OR EVEN BREATHES--BOTH RIFLES WILL FIRE AT ONCE!

THE JAPS, DEEPLY ENGROSSED, WATCH THE EXCITING SPECTACLE OF A MAN TRYING NOT TO MOVE LEST HE KILL HIMSELF---

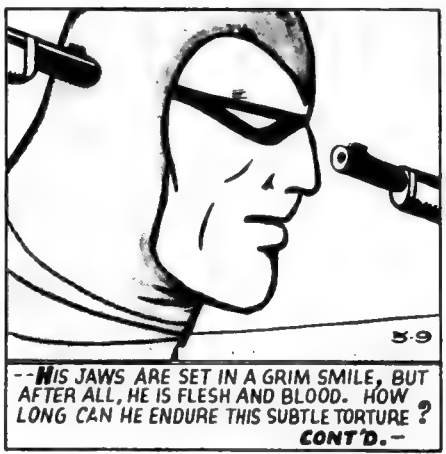
THEY WATCH AND WATCH--AND WAIT AND WAIT--BUT THE VICTIM DOES NOT MOVE---

5-8
--HE DOES NOT TWITCH, HE DOES NOT TREMBLE --HE DOES NOT EVEN SEEM TO BREATHE! HE STANDS LIKE A FIGURE CARVED OF GRANITE!

STANDING LIKE A STONE STATUE, THE PHANTOM DOES NOT MAKE THE SLIGHTEST MOVEMENT THAT WILL FIRE THE RIFLES! THE JAPS BEGIN TO TAUNT HIM-

THEY THROW ROCKS AT HIM---

--THEY TICKLE HIM--PROD HIM--ANYTHING TO MAKE HIM MOVE--BUT THE STICKS SEEM TO MAKE NO IMPRESSION UPON THE IRON-LIKE BODY--

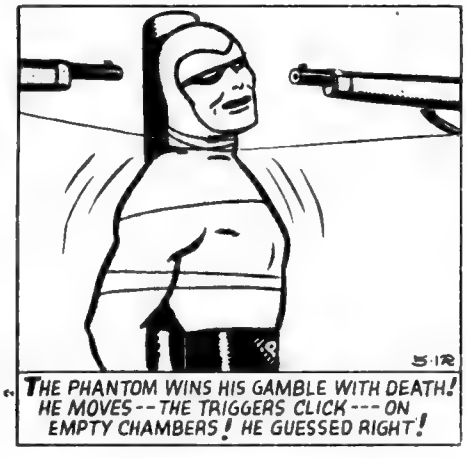

5-9
--HIS JAWS ARE SET IN A GRIM SMILE, BUT AFTER ALL, HE IS FLESH AND BLOOD. HOW LONG CAN HE ENDURE THIS SUBTLE TORTURE?
CONT'D.-

WHY NOT MOVE? JUST A SLIGHT MOVEMENT--AND IT WILL ALL BE OVER!
KURACHI TRIES TO BREAK THE PHANTOM'S NERVE--ONE MOVEMENT--THE RIFLES WILL FIRE--

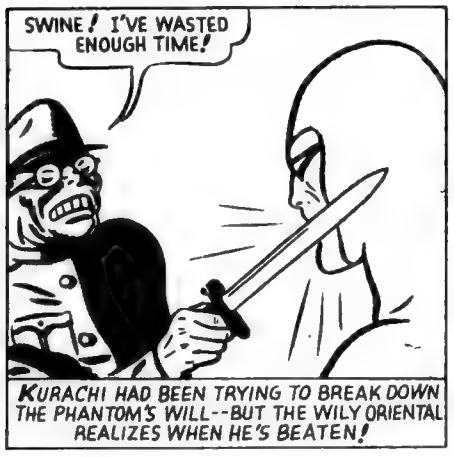
CHANGE YOUR MIND. JOIN US. BRING YOUR NATIVES WITH US. YOU CAN GIVE UP THAT MYSTERIOUS MASK. WE'LL GIVE YOU A HIGH COMMISSION IN OUR ARMY---
THEN--KURACHI GOES ON ANOTHER MORE INSISTENT ANGLE---

5-11
THE PHANTOM HAS BEEN THINKING HARD--HE HAS COME TO A DECISION--KURACHI'S LAST WORDS HAVE GIVEN HIM A CLUE--A FAINT CHANCE-

SO--HE GAMBLES WITH DEATH! LAUGHING, HE MOVES HIS WHOLE BODY---
THE RIFLE TRIGGERS CLICK BACK---


5-12
THE PHANTOM WINS HIS GAMBLE WITH DEATH! HE MOVES--THE TRIGGERS CLICK---ON EMPTY CHAMBERS! HE GUESSED RIGHT!

HE HAD A HUNCH THAT KURACHI WANTED HIS SUPPORT MORE THAN HE WANTED HIS LIFE. AND HE WAS RIGHT! THE RIFLES, LIKE THE HAND GRENADE, WERE NOT LOADED!


SWINE! I'VE WASTED ENOUGH TIME!
KURACHI HAD BEEN TRYING TO BREAK DOWN THE PHANTOM'S WILL--BUT THE WILY ORIENTAL REALIZES WHEN HE'S BEATEN!

THEN, WITHOUT CEREMONY, HE IS TOSSED IN FRONT OF A TANK---

THIS WILL BE MY PLEASURE!
THE PHANTOM IS THROWN IN FRONT OF A TANK—

MEANWHILE, "DEVIL", THE PHANTOM'S LEAN WOLF, HAS RACED THRU THE JUNGLE--TOWARDS THE DEEP WOODS--

"DEVIL"! WHERE IS HE?
5-13

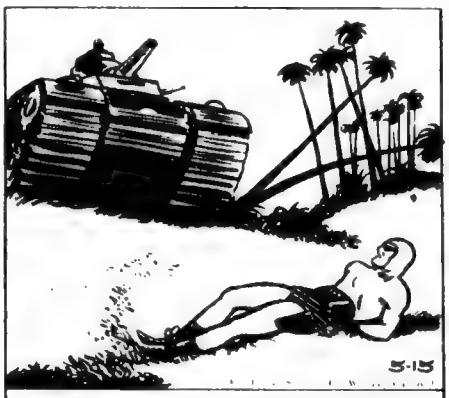
WHY HASN'T-- HE COME BACK--?
"DEVIL" BARKS, INSISTENTLY. DIANA STARES INTO THE DARK FOREST, SUDDENLY OVERCOME WITH FOREBODINGS--

THE TANK, DRIVEN BY KURACHI--STARTS TO ROLL TOWARDS THE PHANTOM—

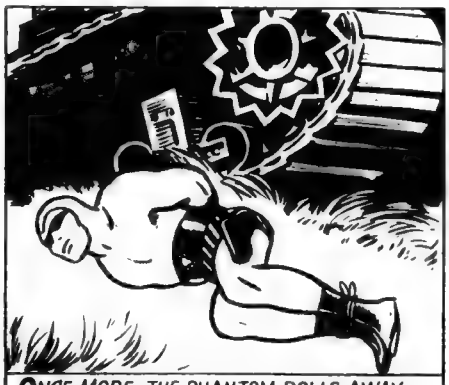
KURACHI DRIVES THE TANK AT THE PHANTOM--THE PHANTOM ROLLS DESPERATELY OUT OF THE WAY--

THE TANK TURNS BACK--

HE TRIES TO ROLL INTO THE BUSHES--THEY PROD HIM WITH BAYONETS--DRIVING HIM BACK--



AND ONCE MORE, THE TANK ROLLS TOWARDS HIM--CLANKING HEAVILY--



ONCE MORE, THE PHANTOM ROLLS AWAY, JUST AVOIDING THE TANK TREADS--HE REALIZES THEY ARE LETTING HIM ESCAPE...

HE BREAKS INTO A COLD SWEAT AT THIS CRUELTY--IT IS A CAT AND MOUSE GAME--BUT THIS MOUSE IS TIED--AND THE GAME CAN HAVE ONLY ONE ENDING. CONT'D.

FOR AN HOUR, THE JAPS CONTINUE THEIR SPORT --TIME AND TIME AGAIN, THE PHANTOM MANAGES TO AVOID A CRUSHING DEATH BY INCHES

5-18
JUNGLE NIGHTS ARE DULL--- THIS IS FINE ENTERTAINMENT.

HA--THAT WAS MOST ENJOYABLE. WE WILL HAVE AN INTER-MISSION. MY THROAT IS DRY. BRING OUT THE SAKI.*
* JAP RICE WINE.

THE JAPS GO TO WORK ON THEIR SAKI -

THE PHANTOM WATCHES GRIMLY-- A FAINT HOPE STIRS IN HIM --- PERHAPS THEY'LL BECOME DROWSY --- AND FALL ASLEEP ---

ISN'T IT TIME WE FINISHED THIS DOG?
5-19
But HIS HOPES ARE SHATTERED. THEY HAVEN'T FORGOTTEN ABOUT HIM--

THE JAPS USE THE PHANTOM AS A TARGET FOR THEIR EMPTY BOTTLES--

5 RO

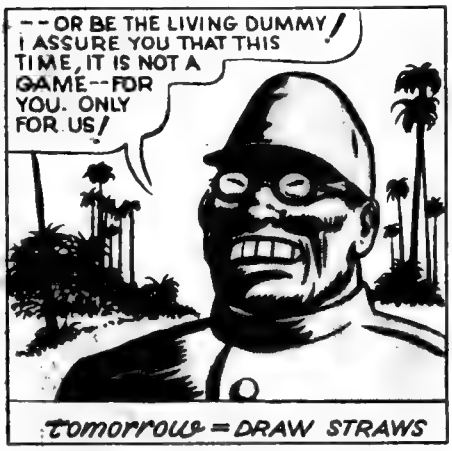
WHAT WE NEED-- IS BAYONET PRACTICE!

TIE OUR "GUEST" TO THE POST. THEN, ATTACH YOUR BAYONETS!

The DRUNKEN JAPS TIE THE PHANTOM TO THE POST--

TIME FOR BAYONET PRACTICE.

MY MEN NEED PRACTICE--WITH A LIVING DUMMY. NOW--THIS IS YOUR LAST CHANCE. BRING THE NATIVES WITH US---
5-21


--OR BE THE LIVING DUMMY! I ASSURE YOU THAT THIS TIME, IT IS NOT A GAME--FOR YOU. ONLY FOR US!
tomorrow = DRAW STRAWS

5-22
KURACHI MAKES THE PHANTOM A LAST OFFER OF FREEDOM IN EXCHANGE FOR ALLEGIANCE--. FILLED WITH COLD FURY, THE PHANTOM DOES NOT REPLY.

DRAW STRAWS, MEN--- LONGEST STRAW GOES FIRST!

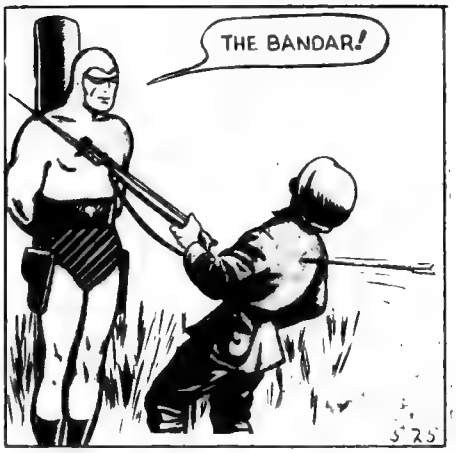
I WON!
REMEMBER, LUCKY WINNER, DON'T AIM FOR THE HEART. DON'T KILL HIM RIGHT AWAY. THE REST OF US WANT SOME ENJOYMENT OUT OF THIS, TOO!
tomorrow = LAST MILE

GO!

5-23
CONTINUED

THE JAP SOLDIER CHARGES--THE PHANTOM STANDS RIGIDLY--

THEN, OUT OF THE DARKNESS, A SOFT ZING


THE BANDAR!
5-25

HE GOT HIM! JUST IN TIME!

THE DRUNKEN JAP SOLDIERS STARE AT THEIR FALLEN COMRADE--STUPIFIED WITH SAKI AND AMAZEMENT---

5-26
LIEUTENANT KURACHI, DIZZY AS THE REST, REELS ABOUT SHOUTING ORDERS--

BUT THE MEN OF BANDAR ARE SOBER---

--AND THEIR DEADLY ARROWS FLY FAST AND STRAIGHT!

5-27
AS THE BULLETS AND POISONED ARROWS WHIZ AROUND HIM, THE PHANTOM TRIES TO FREE HIMSELF ---

The SURPRISE ATTACK OF THE PYGMIES REAPS A HEAVY TOLL, AS THE REELING JAPS TRY TO REACH THEIR STATIONS...

COME ON, WE'D BETTER GET FARTHER BACK INTO THE WOODS!
NO--HOW ABOUT HIM? WE CAN'T LEAVE HIM THERE!

THE BATTLE BETWEEN THE MACHINE-GUNS OF THE JAPS AND THE POISONED ARROWS OF THE BANDAR WAXES HOT AND FURIOUS---

BOTH SIDES TAKE THEIR TOLL---

THE BATTLE HAS CLEARED THE WINE FUMES FROM KURACHI'S BRAIN---HE REALIZES THAT HE HAS LOST HEAVILY IN MEN--

--AND THAT ONE--IS SOMEHOW TO BLAME FOR EVERYTHING!

AS THE BATTLE RAGES ABOUT HIM, KURACHI CONCENTRATES HIS HATRED ON THE HELPLESS PHANTOM. NO--HE WILL NOT SHOOT HIM---

INSTEAD--HE WILL PLUNGE COLD STEEL INTO THE PHANTOM WITH HIS OWN HANDS--BUT HOW TO REACH HIM? HOW TO AVOID THE FLYING, POISONED ARROWS?

A NEARBY WOODEN TABLE SERVES AS A SHIELD FOR THE CRAFTY KURACHI, AS HE CRAWLS SLOWLY TOWARDS THE PHANTOM---CONT'D.

KURACHI CRAWLS TOWARDS THE PHANTOM, A BAYONET IN ONE HAND HE DRAGS ALONG A WOODEN TABLE, AS A SHIELD AGAINST THE PYGMIES' ARROWS ---

BYRON -- LOOK -- KURACHI!
6-1

I'LL GET TO THE PHANTOM FIRST --

-- IF IT'S THE LAST THING I DO!
BRAVING THE HAIL OF BULLETS AND POISONED ARROWS, CAPTAIN BYRON DASHES INTO THE CLEARING!

BYRON DASHES INTO THE OPEN -- A HAIL OF BULLETS GREETS HIM -- HE DROPS TO THE GROUND-

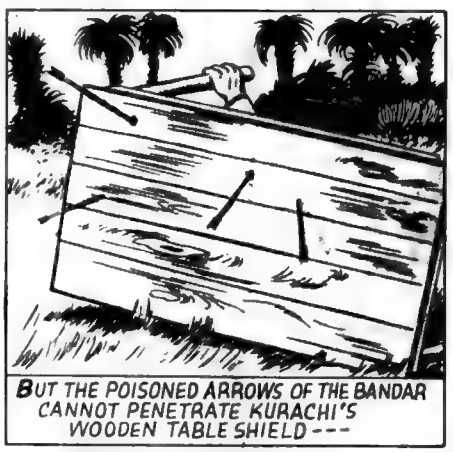
IF I CAN ONLY GET THERE IN TIME -- TO CUT THOSE ROPES --!
ON ALL FOURS -- HE CRAWLS TOWARD THE PHANTOM --
6-2

ON THE OTHER SIDE, KURACHI ALSO CRAWLS TOWARD THE PHANTOM -- WITH ONLY ONE THOUGHT -- TO PLUNGE HIS BAYONET INTO THE HELPLESS FIGURE ---

WHO WILL REACH HIM FIRST?

STOP HIM -- STOP HIM! BYRON WILL NEVER REACH THE PHANTOM IN TIME!
6-3

THE PHANTOM WATCHES, AS KURACHI AND BYRON TRY TO REACH HIM -- BOTH MUST CRAWL BECAUSE OF THE HAIL OF BULLETS AND ARROWS -- BUT KURACHI IS CLOSER NOW ---


BUT THE POISONED ARROWS OF THE BANDAR CANNOT PENETRATE KURACHI'S WOODEN TABLE SHIELD ---

BYRON SEES THE SAME THING ---

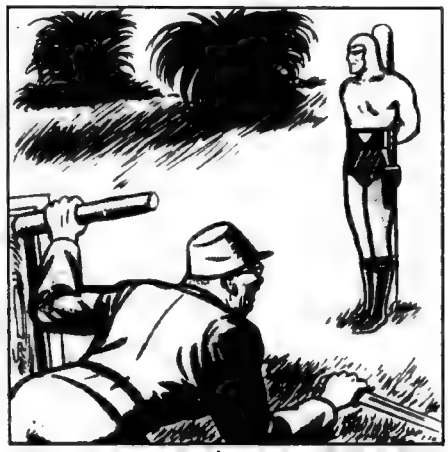
6-4
SO--THROWING CAUTION TO THE WINDS, IGNORING THE JAP BULLETS--HE RACES TOWARD THE PHANTOM--

KURACHI CRAWLS ON--HE SEES THAT BYRON CANNOT POSSIBLY REACH THE PHANTOM BEFORE HE DOES ---

BE WITH YOU--IN A MINUTE--!
KEEP COMING--BYRON!

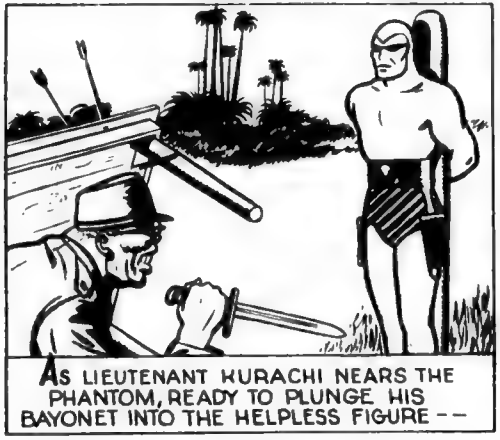
65

AS BYRON RACES TO FREE THE PHANTOM, KURACHI'S BULLET STRIKES HIM---



6-6
BADLY WOUNDED, HIS HEAD SPINNING, BYRON DRIVES HIMSELF ON---

OH, BYRON--KEEP GOING--KEEP GOING---
CONTINUED--

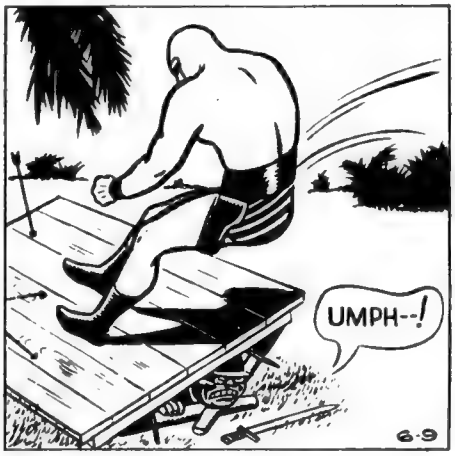

AS LIEUTENANT KURACHI NEARS THE PHANTOM, READY TO PLUNGE HIS BAYONET INTO THE HELPLESS FIGURE --

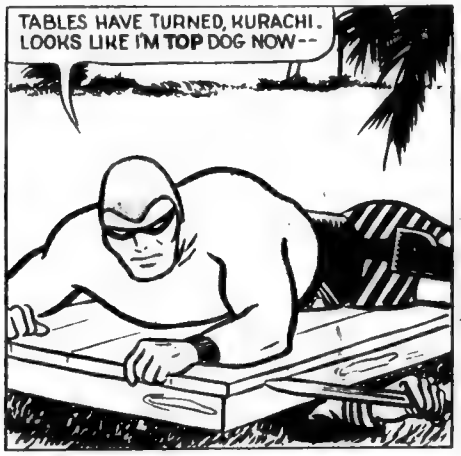
WOUNDED BY KURACHI'S BULLET, BYRON STRUGGLES TO REACH THE PHANTOM AND FREE HIM--

6-8
WITH HIS LAST OUNCE OF ENERGY HE SPRINGS FORWARD --

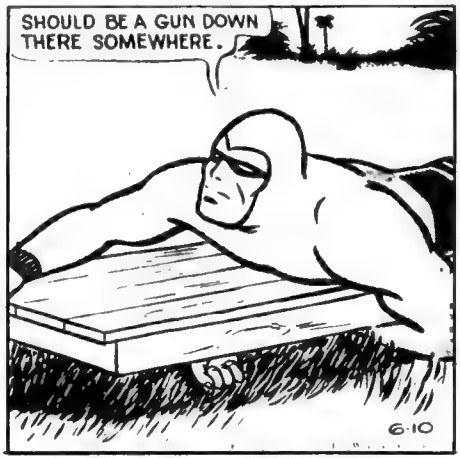
GOOD MAN, BYRON!
USD

AND KURACHI HAS LOST HIS RACE WITH BYRON!


UMPH--!
6-9


TABLES HAVE TURNED, KURACHI. LOOKS LIKE I'M TOP DOG NOW--

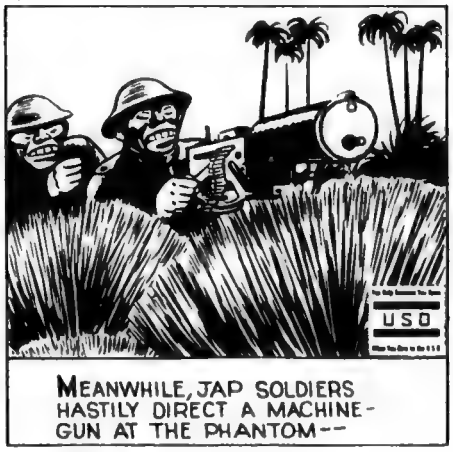
YOU WON'T BE NEEDING THIS PIG-STICKER ANYMORE!

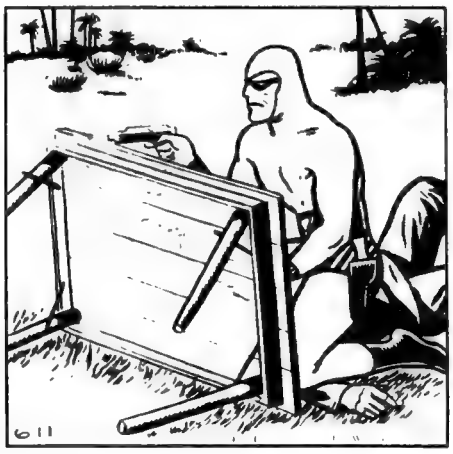

SHOULD BE A GUN DOWN THERE SOMEWHERE.
6-10

THERE WAS!

YOU CAN COME OUT NOW, KURACHI.

I CAN'T TELL YOU HOW MUCH PLEASURE THIS GIVES ME, KURACHI.


USO
MEANWHILE, JAP SOLDIERS HASTILY DIRECT A MACHINE-GUN AT THE PHANTOM--


6-11

THE PHANTOM FIRES AT THE JAPS BEFORE THEY CAN USE THEIR MACHINE-GUN--

A LUCKY SHOT AT CLOSE RANGE HITS THE MACHINE-GUN--

USO
THE PHANTOM IS ON HIS FEET IN A FLASH--!
6-12

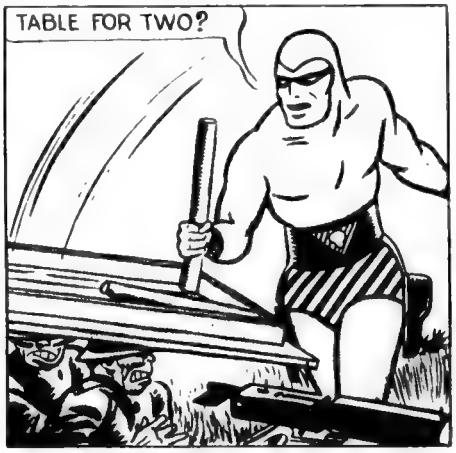
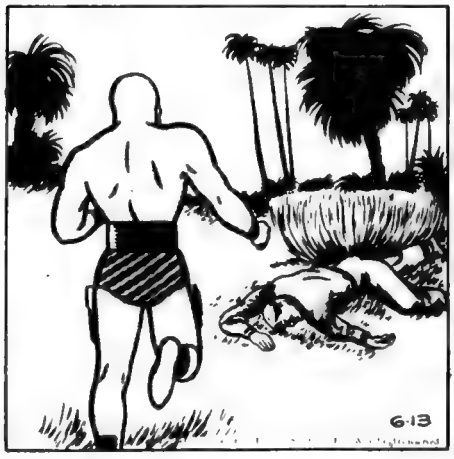


TABLE FOR TWO?


6-13

LEAVE ME. SAVE YOURSELF.
I'D BE IN FINE SHAPE, IF YOU HAD DONE THAT.

IGNORING THE HAIL OF BULLETS AROUND HIM, THE PHANTOM STRIDES OFF INTO THE WOODS--

DARLING--
USO
Continued

HOW YOU FEELING, PAL?
THE MOMENT YOU SLUGGED KURACHI, MY WOUND BEGAN TO HEAL.

MAN, WHEN YOU HIT 'EM, THEY STAY HIT!

DARLING!
DIANA!

NOW, WATCH WHAT HAPPENS WHEN THESE SUPER-TROOPS LOSE THEIR LEADER!
USO
6 15

WITH KURACHI GONE, THE JAPS ARE LEADERLESS --- THEY STARE ABOUT DUMBLY---

THEN RUN FOR COVER, IN A PANIC ---

THEY'RE TAUGHT TO OBEY WITHOUT THINKING -- BUT WHEN THERE'S NO ONE TO TELL THEM WHAT TO DO -- THEY'RE LOST! THAT'S THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN FREE MEN AND ROBOTS!
6 16

WHAT HAPPENS NOW?
NOW THE BANDAR GO TO WORK!
tomorrow -- NOT VERY PRETTY

LEADERLESS, THE JAPS SCATTERED IN PANIC, RUNNING PELL-MELL INTO THE BUSHES ---

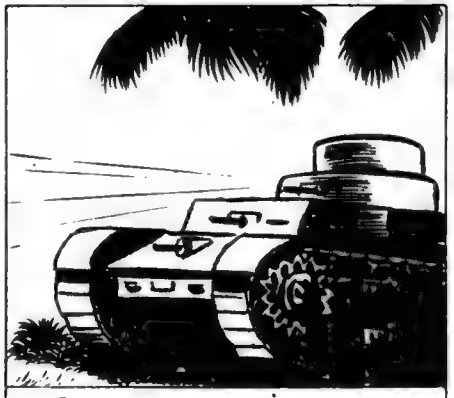
USO
6 17

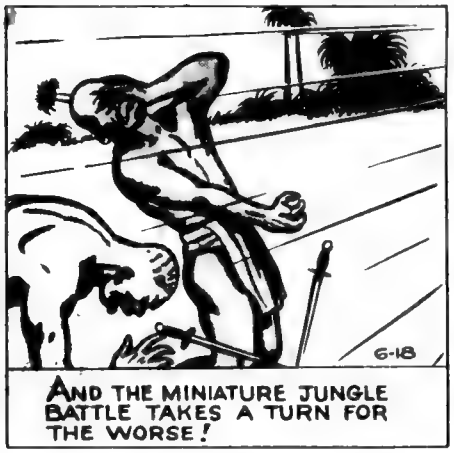
AND THE PYGMIES CLOSE IN -- SOME WITH THEIR DEADLY ARROWS -- SOME WITH GLEAMING KNIVES, TIPPED WITH POISON ---

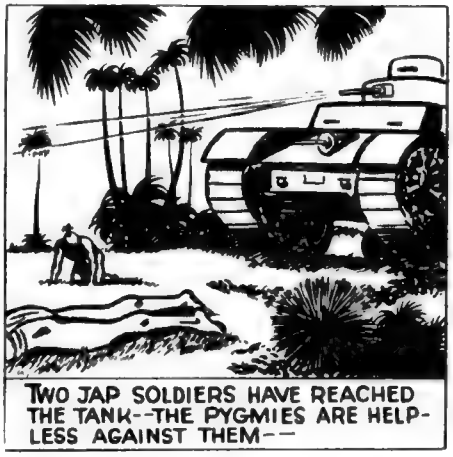
IT'S NOT -- VERY -- PRETTY --
WAR NEVER IS.

IN THE THICK BUSH, THE PYGMIES MOVE LIKE CATS--THEIR POISONED BLADES TAKE A HEAVY TOLL--

TWO OF THE JAP SOLDIERS CLIMB FRANTICALLY INTO THE TANK--


SAFELY INSIDE, THEY LAY DOWN A DEADLY BARRAGE.


6-18
AND THE MINIATURE JUNGLE BATTLE TAKES A TURN FOR THE WORSE!

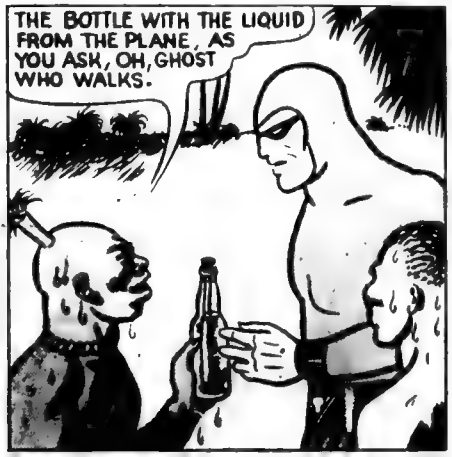

TWO JAP SOLDIERS HAVE REACHED THE TANK--THE PYGMIES ARE HELPLESS AGAINST THEM--

WE'VE GOT TO GET THEM OUT OF THAT TANK! ARE THERE ANY GLASS BOTTLES IN THE PLANE?
WHY--YES, A WATER BOTTLE. WHAT GOOD IS IT?
6-19

ON THE LAKE IS A PLANE. IN THE PLANE IS A BOTTLE. FILL IT WITH GASOLINE FROM THE PLANE AND BRING IT TO ME.

WHAT DOES THE PHANTOM PLAN TO DO?

THE TWO PYGMIES GET A BOTTLE OF GASOLINE FROM THE PLANE--


THE BOTTLE WITH THE LIQUID FROM THE PLANE, AS YOU ASK, OH, GHOST WHO WALKS.

HOW CAN YOU GET THE JAPS OUT OF THE TANK WITH THAT?
I'D PREFER AN ANTI-TANK GUN, BUT WHEN YOU HAVEN'T GOT WHAT YOU WANT, YOU USE WHAT YOU HAVE.
6-20

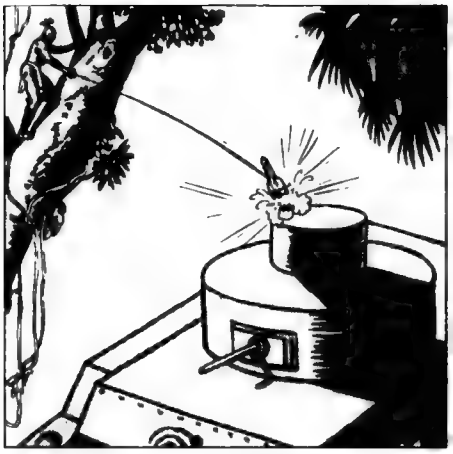
WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO?
FIRST, GIVE THEM A CHANCE TO SURRENDER. IF THEY REFUSE--WE'LL USE THIS!
Continued

KURACHI, ORDER YOUR MEN IN THAT TANK TO SURRENDER, OR WE'LL FORCE THEM OUT!

MY MEN HAVE ORDERS TO FIGHT TO THE END!

YOU'RE VERY COURAGEOUS, KURACHI -- WHEN OTHER MEN'S LIVES ARE INVOLVED!
6-22
tomorrow=EMPTYING A TANK!

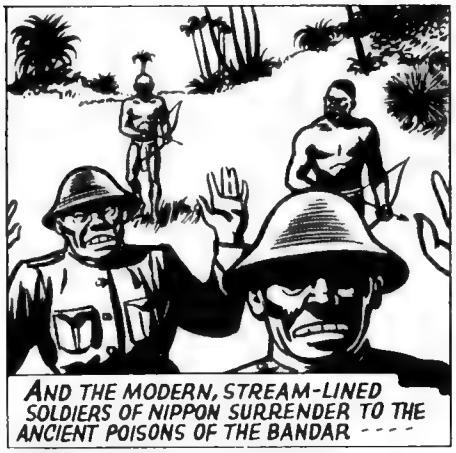
THE PYGMY CLIMBS INTO A TREE WITH A BOTTLE OF GASOLINE --
6-23



A FLAMING ARROW FLIES FROM A PYGMY BOW---
USO

THE JAP TANK BLAZES---IT'S OWN LUBRICATING OILS AND GAS RESERVES ADD FUEL TO THE FLAMES----

6-24


AND THE MODERN, STREAM-LINED SOLDIERS OF NIPPON SURRENDER TO THE ANCIENT POISONS OF THE BANDAR ----

YOU SEE, KURACHI, THERE ARE MORE WAYS THAN ONE TO SKIN A CAT!

DIANA, YOU'D BETTER START BACK FOR THE DEEP WOODS. THE BANDAR WILL CARRY BYRON.
HOW ABOUT THE DISPATCH CASE AT THE BOTTOM OF THE LAKE? HAVE YOU FORGOTTEN IT?
6-25

NO. I'M GOING AFTER THAT NOW. I'M TAKING KURACHI WITH ME-- I DON'T WANT HIM TO ESCAPE.

BUT THESE WOODS ARE STILL FULL OF JAPS--
RIGHT! THAT'S WHY I WANT YOU SAFELY IN THE DEEP WOODS. SOME OF THE PYGMIES WILL REMAIN HERE-- TO CLEAN UP ODDS AND ENDS!

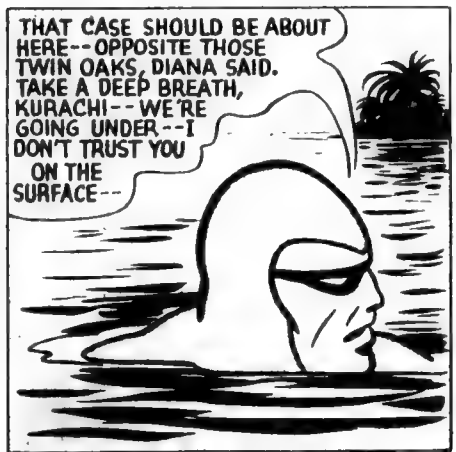
WE'RE GOING FOR A LITTLE SWIM, LIEUTENANT.
NO--! LET GO, YOU--!--!
USO

AND WE'LL WASH YOUR MOUTH OUT, WHILE WE'RE BATHING!

KNOCKED TO THE BEACH, KURACHI LANDS ON AN OLD RUSTY SPEAR HEAD--HIS HANDS CLOSE STEALTHILY UPON IT---

6-26

KEEP SWIMMING, KURACHI--STAY CLOSE TO ME!
I WILL--STAY CLOSE.

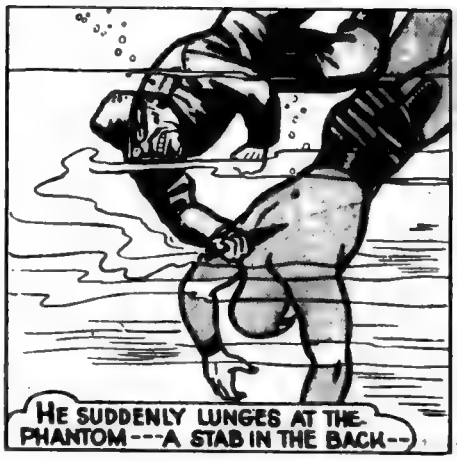

THAT CASE SHOULD BE ABOUT HERE--OPPOSITE THOSE TWIN OAKS, DIANA SAID. TAKE A DEEP BREATH, KURACHI--WE'RE GOING UNDER--I DON'T TRUST YOU ON THE SURFACE--

I AM READY.
KURACHI CLUTCHES THE RUSTY SPEAR HEAD--

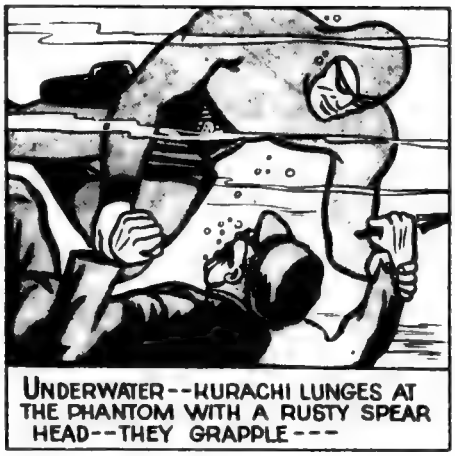
6-27
CONTINUED--

SEARCHING FOR THE DISPATCH CASE, THE PHANTOM TAKES KURACHI TO THE BOTTOM OF THE LAKE WITH HIM

UNKNOWN TO THE PHANTOM, KURACHI HAS GOTTEN HOLD OF A RUSTY SPEAR HEAD---


HE SUDDENLY LUNGES AT THE PHANTOM---A STAB IN THE BACK--

6-29
USO


UNDERWATER--KURACHI LUNGES AT THE PHANTOM WITH A RUSTY SPEAR HEAD--THEY GRAPPLE---

KURACHI SLITHERS OUT OF THE PHANTOM'S GRIP AND FIGHTS TOWARDS THE SURFACE--

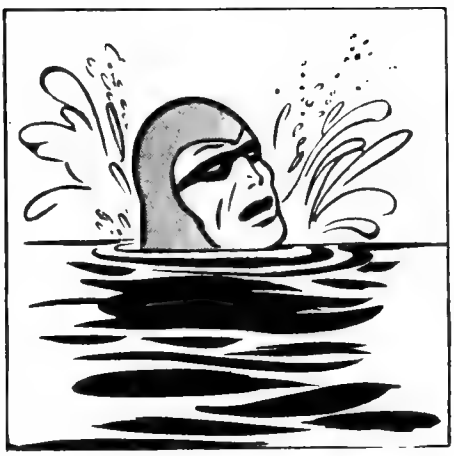
HE POPS TO THE SURFACE--

YOU CAME CLOSE--
--KURACHI--
6-30
AND THE PHANTOM POPS RIGHT AFTER HIM!
USO

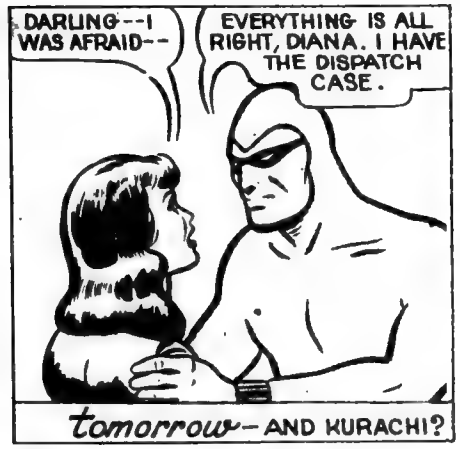
LIEUTENANT KURACHI TRIES TO KILL THE PHANTOM UNDERWATER ---BUT FAILS---

HE IS DRAGGED TO THE LAKE BOTTOM---

WHERE THE PHANTOM FINDS THE DISPATCH CASE, WRAPPED IN A RAINCOAT AND TIED TO A ROCK--AS DIANA HAD LEFT IT--



7-2


DARLING--I WAS AFRAID--
EVERYTHING IS ALL RIGHT, DIANA. I HAVE THE DISPATCH CASE.
tomorrow--AND KURACHI?

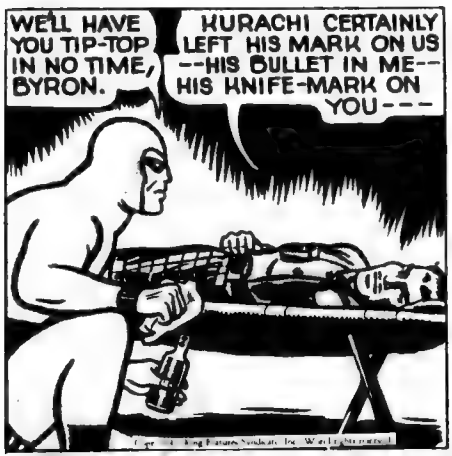
OH! YOU HAVE A WOUND--IN YOUR BACK!
YES--AT THE LAST MOMENT, KURACHI TRIED TO KILL ME UNDER WATER WITH A RUSTY SPEAR HEAD--

WHERE IS KURACHI?
I TOOK HIM DOWN WITH ME--TO THE BOTTOM OF THE LAKE--BUT I DIDN'T BRING HIM UP---

THIS IS WAR.

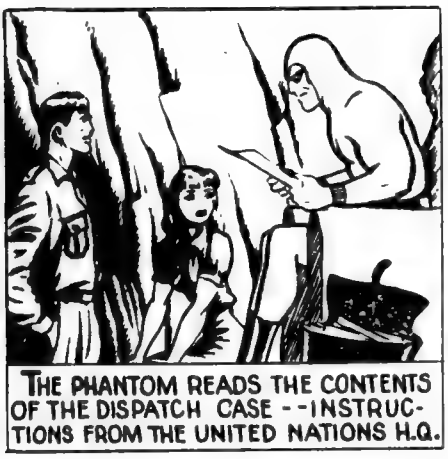
BUT LIEUTENANT KURACHI HAS COME UP--AS FAR AS HE'LL EVER GO--
7-4

THEY REACH THE DEEP WOODS--
7-4


WE'LL HAVE YOU TIP-TOP IN NO TIME, BYRON.
KURACHI CERTAINLY LEFT HIS MARK ON US --HIS BULLET IN ME--HIS KNIFE-MARK ON YOU---

DARLING--HOLD STILL A MINUTE! THIS IS A BAD WOUND! YOU SAID THAT SPEAR HEAD WAS RUSTY--I ONLY HOPE TETANUS DOESN'T SET IN--

AREN'T YOU INTERESTED IN THE FACT THAT YOU'VE GOT A BAD GASH IN YOUR BACK?
IT'LL HEAL. NOW FOR A LOOK AT THESE DISPATCHES.
CONTINUED


THE PHANTOM READS THE CONTENTS OF THE DISPATCH CASE --INSTRUCTIONS FROM THE UNITED NATIONS H.Q.

TROOPS ARE ON THE WAY, AND WILL BE LANDED AT MORRISTOWN ON THE SOUTH COAST --THERE.

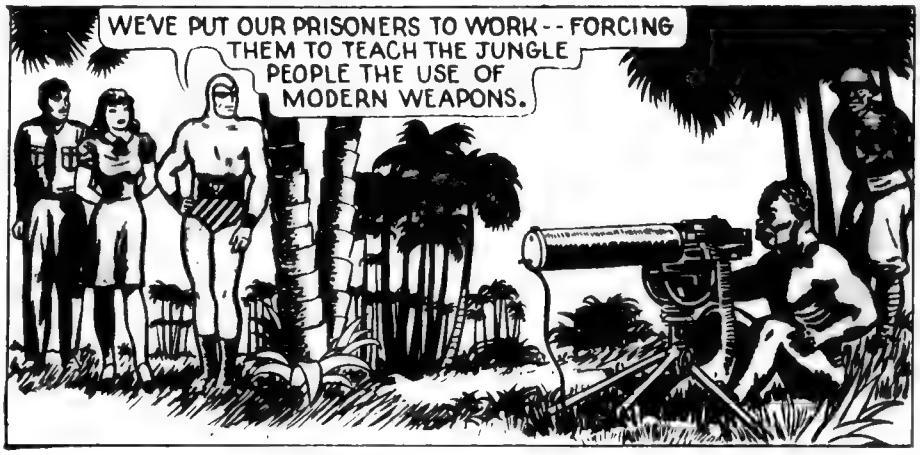
WE ARE TO DELAY THE MAIN JAP PUSH, AND TRY TO HOLD THIS LINE AT THE OOLAN RIVER--UNTIL THE REGULAR TROOPS ARRIVE.

NOW THAT WE KNOW WHAT WE HAVE TO DO, WE WILL DO IT.
IT'S IMPOSSIBLE!
tomorrow-WHY?

I ADMIRE THE COURAGE OF YOUR JUNGLE PEOPLE--BUT THEIR PRIMITIVE WEAPONS WILL BE LIKE STRAWS AGAINST FIRE WHEN THE JAPS OPEN UP FULL-BLAST.

YOU FORGET--THESE JUNGLE FOLKS ARE FREE PEOPLE! FREE MEN--FIGHTING FOR THEIR OWN LAND! THEY WILL FIGHT--WE WILL FIGHT!

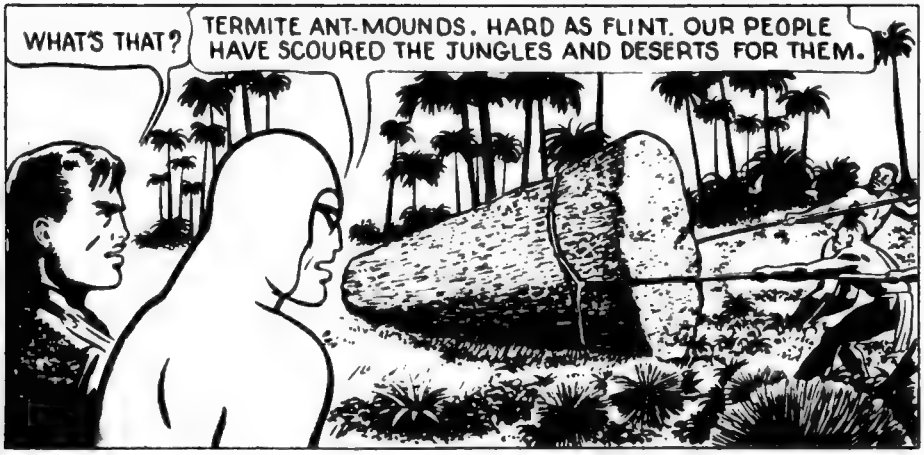
FIGHT--WITH OUR PRIMITIVE WEAPONS--WITH OUR BRAINS--WITH OUR HANDS AND TEETH, IF NECESSARY!
BUY WAR BONDS AND STAMPS
77


WE'VE PUT OUR PRISONERS TO WORK--FORCING THEM TO TEACH THE JUNGLE PEOPLE THE USE OF MODERN WEAPONS.

--AND WITH SOMETHING ELSE THAT MAY SURPRISE YOU. COME, I WILL SHOW YOU.

EVERY NIGHT FOR THE PAST MONTH WE'VE RAIDED SCATTERED JAP CAMPS--AND BROUGHT BACK WEAPONS--AND INSTRUCTORS--

AMAZING! BUT THESE PYGMIES ARE PRIMITIVE, IGNORANT MEN! HOW CAN THEY LEARN THE USE OF THESE COMPLICATED WEAPONS?
WHEN MEN ARE FIGHTING FOR FREEDOM, THEY LEARN QUICKLY!


WHAT'S THAT?
TERMITE ANT-MOUNDS. HARD AS FLINT. OUR PEOPLE HAVE SCOURED THE JUNGLES AND DESERTS FOR THEM.

THEY ARE STRONG AS CONCRETE--AND WHEN SET IN THE GROUND--

--THEY MAKE CRUDE, BUT EFFECTIVE, TANK-TRAPS!

ISN'T HE AMAZING? WHO ELSE COULD TEACH THE PYGMIES TO USE MACHINE-GUNS?
AND ANT-MOUNDS FOR TANK-TRAPS--THAT BEATS EVERYTHING!

YOU KNOW--YOUR EFFORTS ARE MARVELOUS--I ONLY HOPE YOU WON'T BE DISAPPOINTED.
WHAT DO YOU MEAN, BYRON?

THE FEW GUNS YOU'VE GOTTEN--THE FEW NATIVES YOU'VE TRAINED---THEY'RE ONLY A DROP IN THE BUCKET--
FOR VICTORY BUY WAR BONDS & STAMPS

IF ENOUGH DROPS ARE PUT INTO THE BUCKET--IT WILL OVERFLOW--AND WASH THE JAPS INTO THE SEA!
tomorrow--NO SLEEP TONIGHT

I'M SLEEPY--WHERE DID HE GO?
OFF IN THE WOODS, SOMEPLACE. I'M WORN OUT, MYSELF. GOODNIGHT, DIANA. SLEEP TIGHT.

WOW--I'M DEAD--HUH--WHAT'S THE MATTER?
SHH--DIANA'S IN THE NEXT HUT--DON'T LET HER HEAR US.

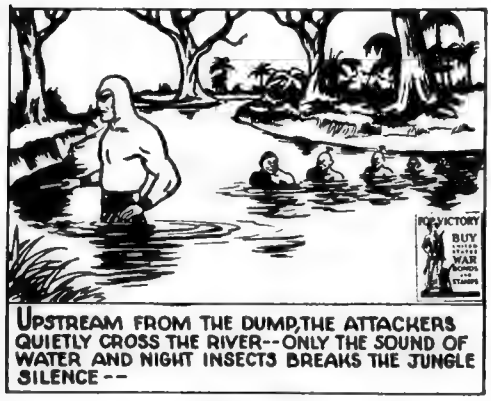
I CAN HARDLY HEAR YOU, MYSELF. I'M PRACTICALLY ASLEEP.
THERE'S A NEW JAP MUNITIONS DUMP PLANTED DOWN THE RIVER. WE'RE GOING TO RAID IT--NOW.

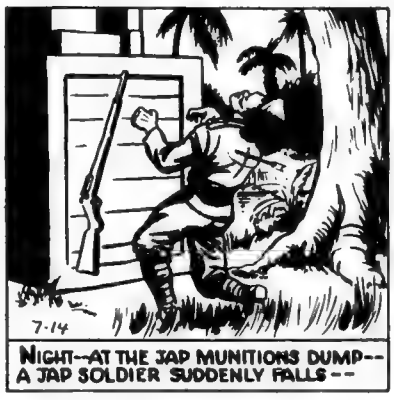
STILL SLEEPY?
STRANGE--I'M SUDDENLY WIDE-AWAKE. LEAD THE WAY, PARTNER. I'M RIGHT BEHIND YOU.
Next Week: THE RAID.

THE PHANTOM LEADS THE PYGMY BANDAR ON A RAID ON A JAP MUNITIONS DUMP.

HE GIVES THE SIGNAL--SILENTLY, THEY SPREAD OUT THRU THE BUSHES--

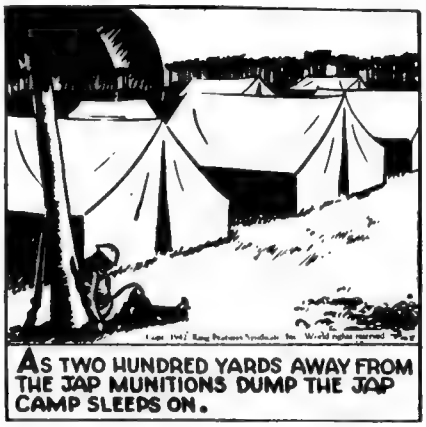
7-13


FOR VICTORY
BUY
WAR
BONDS
AND
STAMPS
UPSTREAM FROM THE DUMP, THE ATTACKERS QUIETLY CROSS THE RIVER--ONLY THE SOUND OF WATER AND NIGHT INSECTS BREAKS THE JUNGLE SILENCE--


7-14
NIGHT--AT THE JAP MUNITIONS DUMP--A JAP SOLDIER SUDDENLY FALLS--

THE PYGMIES COME SILENTLY OUT OF THE NIGHT--

NOTHING DISTURBS THE QUIET OF THE NIGHT--

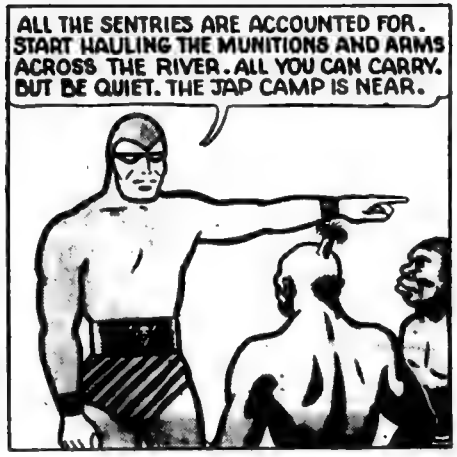

AS TWO HUNDRED YARDS AWAY FROM THE JAP MUNITIONS DUMP THE JAP CAMP SLEEPS ON.

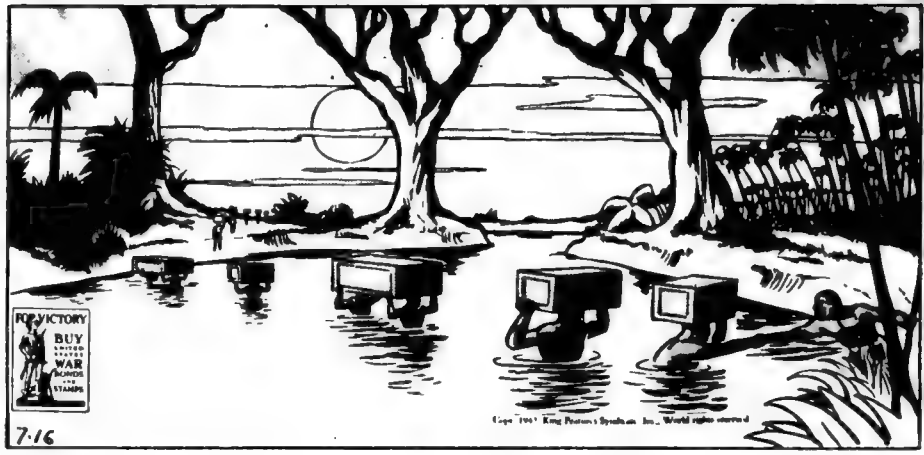
AT THE MUNITIONS DUMP---A JAP SOLDIER IS TROUBLED BY UNEXPLAINABLE SOUNDS.

THERE IS NO PLEASURE IN ALL THIS WORLD LIKE CLIPPING A JAP!

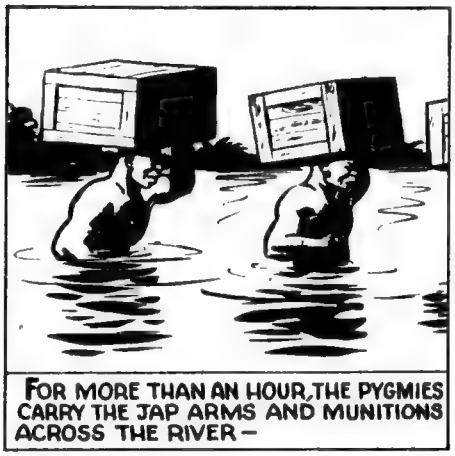
I SEE WHAT YOU MEAN!
7-15

IT'S LOVELY!


ALL THE SENTRIES ARE ACCOUNTED FOR. START HAULING THE MUNITIONS AND ARMS ACROSS THE RIVER. ALL YOU CAN CARRY. BUT BE QUIET. THE JAP CAMP IS NEAR.


FOR VICTORY
BUY
WAR
BONDS
STAMPS
7-16

THE JAP MATERIAL IS SILENTLY REMOVED FROM THE DUMP--

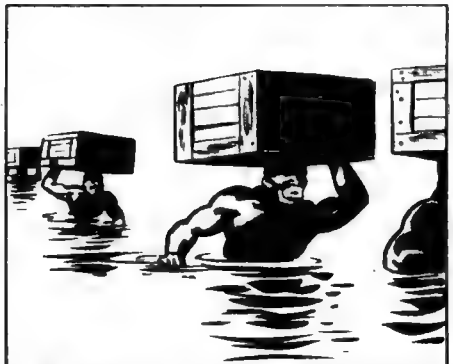

FOR MORE THAN AN HOUR, THE PYGMIES CARRY THE JAP ARMS AND MUNITIONS ACROSS THE RIVER-

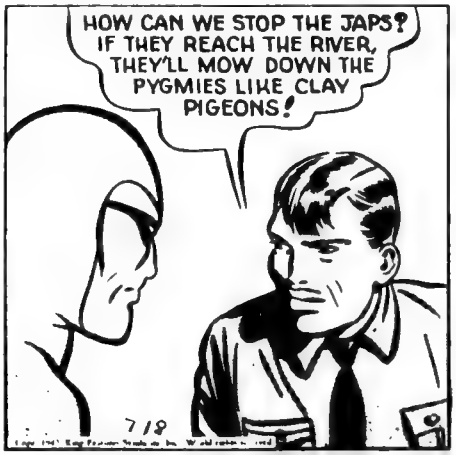
WE HAVEN'T MADE MUCH OF A DENT IN THAT PILE.
WE'VE GOTTEN QUITE A LOT--IF WE CAN ONLY GET AWAY WITHOUT WAKING UP THE JAP CAMP--
7-17

A JAP SOLDIER HAS WANDERED OVER TOWARDS THE MUNITIONS DUMP FROM THE CAMP--WHAT HE SEES IN THE MOON-LIGHT MAKES HIS EYES POP.

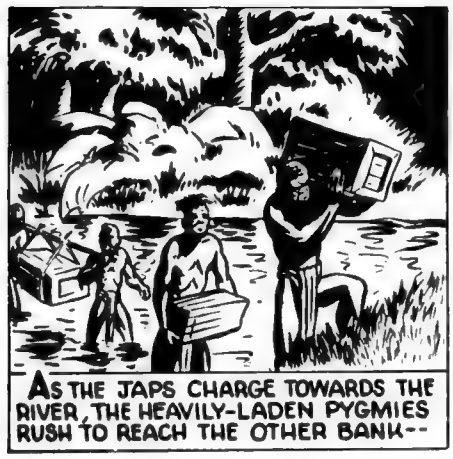
WAKE UP! WAKE UP!

THE JAP SOLDIERS POUR OUT OF THEIR TENTS--


THE PYGMIES--WARNED BY THE OUT-CRIES, RUSH TO CROSS THE RIVER WITH THEIR HEAVY LOADS ---


HOW CAN WE STOP THE JAPS? IF THEY REACH THE RIVER, THEY'LL MOW DOWN THE PYGMIES LIKE CLAY PIGEONS!
7-18

Continued


AS THE JAPS CHARGE TOWARDS THE RIVER, THE HEAVILY-LADEN PYGMIES RUSH TO REACH THE OTHER BANK--

WHERE ARE YOU GOING? WE'D BETTER GET OUT OF HERE!
TOO LATE NOW! WE'LL ALL BE TRAPPED! I'VE GOT TO STOP THOSE JAPS!
7-20

YOU CAN'T STAY UP THERE -- ON ALL THESE MUNITIONS -- A BULLET WILL BLOW YOU INTO THE STRATOSPHERE!

THAT'S ONE WAY OF GETTING TO HEAVEN.

FROM ATOP THE MUNITIONS DUMP--THE PHANTOM KEEPS UP A RAPID FIRE --

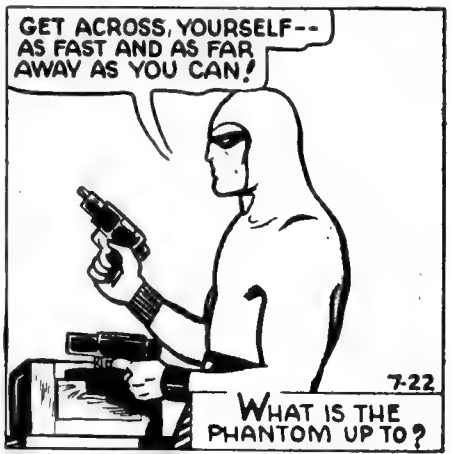
7-21

MIGOSH--WHAT HAPPENS NEXT-- I DON'T KNOW! IF THEY SHOOT AT HIM--AND HIT THOSE BOXES--
FOR VICTORY
BUY WAR BONDS AND STAMPS

CAN'T WE SHOOT AT HIM?
WHAT? AND TAKE THE CHANCE OF DESTROYING ALL OUR MUNITIONS? NO! WE WERE SENT HERE TO GUARD THAT PILE --

BYRON--BYRON-- ARE ALL OF THE BANDAR ACROSS THE RIVER?

YES--THEY'VE ALL REACHED THE WOODS.


GET ACROSS, YOURSELF-- AS FAST AND AS FAR AWAY AS YOU CAN!
7-22
WHAT IS THE PHANTOM UP TO?

AFRAID TO SHOOT AT THE DUMP AND DESTROY THEIR OWN MUNITIONS, THE JAPS ARE HELD HELPLESS BY THE PHANTOM'S DARING!

ATOP THE MUNITIONS DUMP, THE PHANTOM TAKES A JAP HAND-GRENADE---

LOOKING ABOUT--HE SEES A HEAVY VINE SUSPENDED FROM A TREE, HANGING HALFWAY ACROSS THE RIVER--

AS THE PHANTOM LEAPS FROM THE MUNITIONS DUMP--THE JAPS CHARGE AFTER HIM--

HE LEAPS LIKE A DEER FROM THE RIVER BANK--

HE MAKES THE PRODIGIOUS LEAP--SWINGING ACROSS THE RIVER--

HE IS UP IN THE TREE IN A FLASH--AND WITHOUT FURTHER ADO--HURLS THE HAND-GRENADE ACROSS THE RIVER--AT THE MUNITIONS DUMP! *Cont'd.*

THE PHANTOM HURLS A JAP HAND-GRENADE ACROSS THE STREAM--

--ON TOP OF THE HUGE JAP MUNITIONS DUMP--

THE ON-RUSHING JAPS STOP SUDDENLY --

FOR VICTORY
BUY
WAR
BONDS
AND
STAMPS

THE HUGE JAP MUNITIONS DUMP DETONATED BY THE PHANTOM'S GRENADE, EXPLODES IN A SERIES OF VIOLENT ERUPTIONS --

THE MAN-MADE EARTHQUAKE SHAKES THE JUNGLE FOR MILES AROUND

STILL THE MIGHTY EXPLOSIONS CONTINUE, LIKE GREAT CLAPS OF THUNDER--

WHAT--WAS THAT?
AND MANY MILES AWAY, IN THE DEEP WOODS, DIANA IS AWAKENED--

ALL THE JAP MUNITIONS--AND ALL THE JAPS--ARE GONE--

LET'S CATCH UP WITH THE BANDAR.

WE TOOK ALL THE MUNITIONS WE COULD CARRY. WE COULDN'T LEAVE THE REST TO BE USED AGAINST US.
YOU DIDN'T LEAVE --A THING--

7-30
THE BANDAR REACH THE DEEP WOODS WITH THE JAP MUNITIONS--

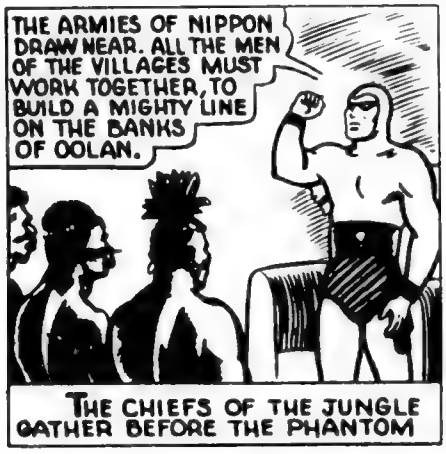
I THOUGHT I HEARD AN EXPLOSION HOURS AGO. I HAVEN'T BEEN ABLE TO SLEEP. WHAT WAS IT?
A NIGHTMARE, NO DOUBT.

IT'S NEARLY DAWN. WHERE HAVE YOU TWO BEEN?
OUT FOR A WALK.
WE NEEDED EXERCISE.
tomorrow: --JUNGLE DRAFT

WE MUST BEGIN WORK ON THE OOLAN RIVER FORTIFICATIONS. THAT IS WHERE WE'LL HOLD UNTIL THE ARMIES OF THE UNITED NATIONS RELIEVE US.

WE HOPE WE'LL HOLD. WE HAVE SOME WEAPONS -- BUT NOT ENOUGH.
THERE'LL HAVE TO BE ENOUGH.

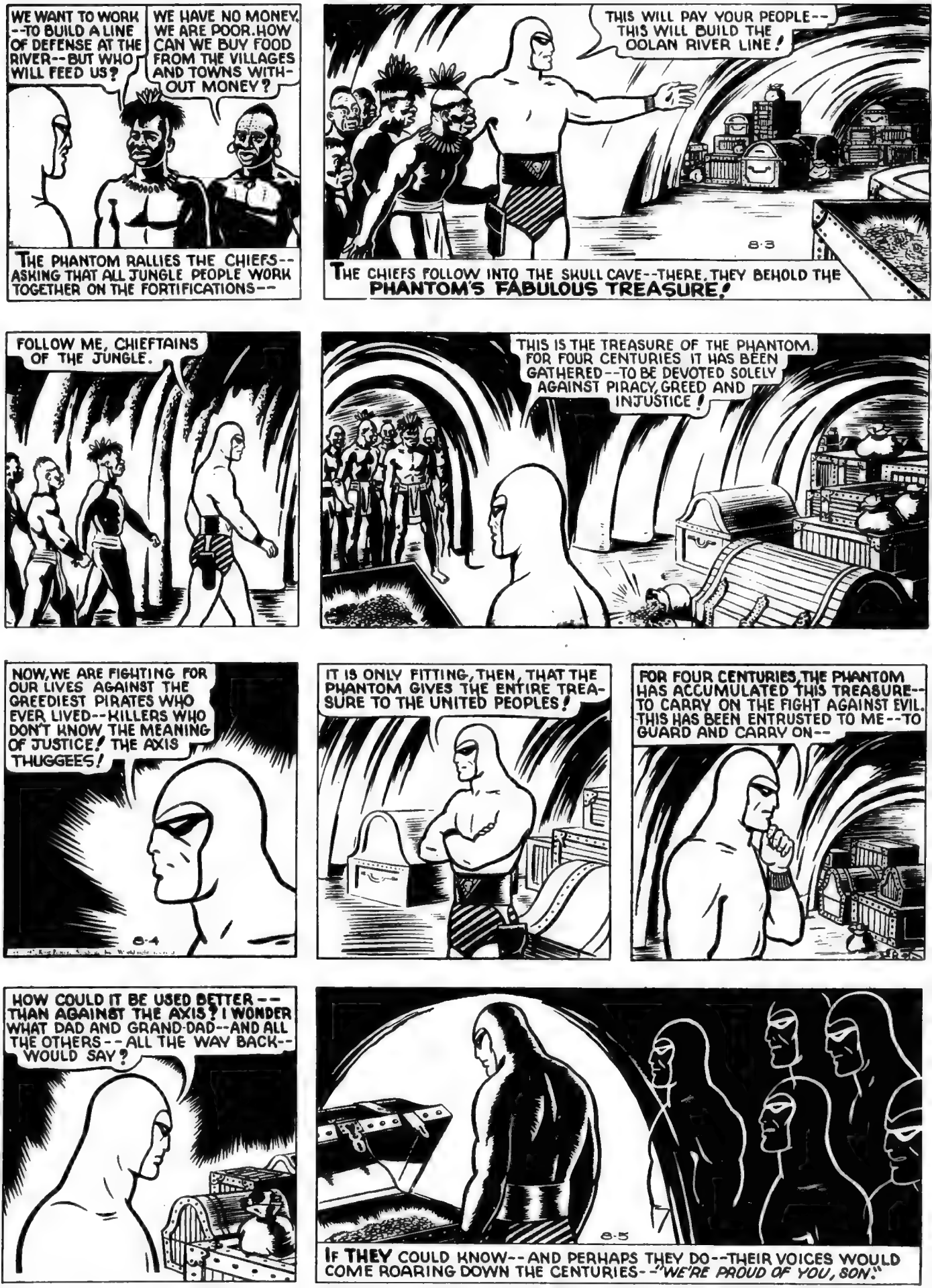
ASSEMBLE ALL THE CHIEFS OF THE JUNGLE! ALL THE JUNGLE PEOPLE MUST JOIN AGAINST THE COMMON ENEMY.
7-31
tomorrow: A HITCH IN PLANS


THE ARMIES OF NIPPON DRAW NEAR. ALL THE MEN OF THE VILLAGES MUST WORK TOGETHER, TO BUILD A MIGHTY LINE ON THE BANKS OF OOLAN.
THE CHIEFS OF THE JUNGLE GATHER BEFORE THE PHANTOM

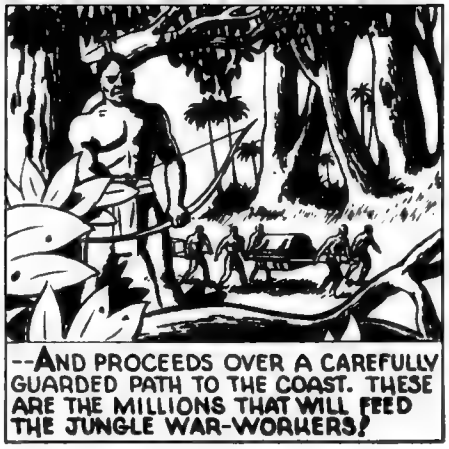
OUR PEOPLE ARE POOR--
OUR PEOPLE MUST WORK FOR THEIR DAILY BREAD.

IF WE DO NOT WORK, WHO WILL FEED US--?
WE HAVE NO MONEY TO BUY FROM THE TOWNS AND VILLAGES--WHO WILL PAY US?

HOW'S THE POW-POW GOING?
BOGGING DOWN. THE OLD QUESTION--WHO'S GOING TO PAY FOR IT? WELL--THEY'RE RIGHT. THEY HAVE TO EAT! NOW WHAT?
Continued.


WE WANT TO WORK --TO BUILD A LINE OF DEFENSE AT THE RIVER--BUT WHO WILL FEED US?
WE HAVE NO MONEY. WE ARE POOR. HOW CAN WE BUY FOOD FROM THE VILLAGES AND TOWNS WITHOUT MONEY?
THE PHANTOM RALLIES THE CHIEFS--ASKING THAT ALL JUNGLE PEOPLE WORK TOGETHER ON THE FORTIFICATIONS--
THIS WILL PAY YOUR PEOPLE--THIS WILL BUILD THE OOLAN RIVER LINE!
8-3
THE CHIEFS FOLLOW INTO THE SKULL CAVE--THERE, THEY BEHOLD THE PHANTOM'S FABULOUS TREASURE!
FOLLOW ME, CHIEFTAINS OF THE JUNGLE.
THIS IS THE TREASURE OF THE PHANTOM. FOR FOUR CENTURIES IT HAS BEEN GATHERED--TO BE DEVOTED SOLELY AGAINST PIRACY, GREED AND INJUSTICE!
NOW, WE ARE FIGHTING FOR OUR LIVES AGAINST THE GREEDIEST PIRATES WHO EVER LIVED--KILLERS WHO DON'T KNOW THE MEANING OF JUSTICE! THE AXIS THUGGEES!
8-4
IT IS ONLY FITTING, THEN, THAT THE PHANTOM GIVES THE ENTIRE TREASURE TO THE UNITED PEOPLES!
FOR FOUR CENTURIES, THE PHANTOM HAS ACCUMULATED THIS TREASURE--TO CARRY ON THE FIGHT AGAINST EVIL. THIS HAS BEEN ENTRUSTED TO ME--TO GUARD AND CARRY ON--
HOW COULD IT BE USED BETTER--THAN AGAINST THE AXIS? I WONDER WHAT DAD AND GRAND-DAD--AND ALL THE OTHERS--ALL THE WAY BACK--WOULD SAY?
8-5
IF THEY COULD KNOW--AND PERHAPS THEY DO--THEIR VOICES WOULD COME ROARING DOWN THE CENTURIES--"WE'RE PROUD OF YOU, SON."

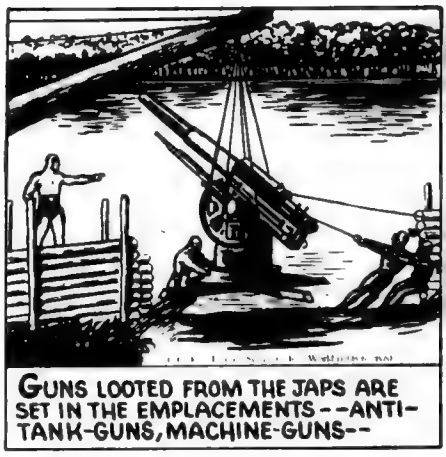
THE PHANTOM'S TREASURE IS TAKEN FROM THE SKULL CAVE ---


--AND PROCEEDS OVER A CAREFULLY GUARDED PATH TO THE COAST. THESE ARE THE MILLIONS THAT WILL FEED THE JUNGLE WAR-WORKERS!

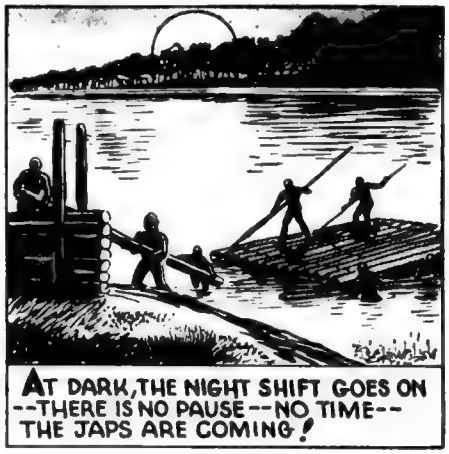
ALL GONE! DOESN'T IT MAKE YOU FEEL STRANGE---AFTER HAVING GUARDED IT ALL YOUR LIFE?
FRANKLY--IT'S A LOAD OFF MY CHEST.
FOR VICTORY
BUY WAR BONDS AND STAMPS

NOW IT'S OUT OF THE CAVE--IN THE SUNSHINE--WHERE IT CAN DO GOOD. AND TOMORROW --WE BEGIN THE OOLAN RIVER LINE!

THE OOLAN RIVER LINE IS BEGUN--THIS IS WHERE THE JUNGLE WILL BRACE ITSELF TO HOLD-OFF THE MAIN JAP PUSH--


GUNS LOOTED FROM THE JAPS ARE SET IN THE EMPLACEMENTS--ANTI-TANK-GUNS, MACHINE-GUNS--

THE WORK GOES ON AT A BREATHLESS, BACK-BREAKING PACE--


AT DARK, THE NIGHT SHIFT GOES ON --THERE IS NO PAUSE--NO TIME--THE JAPS ARE COMING!

BY GEORGE--I NEVER SAW NATIVES WORK SO HARD AND FAST BEFORE!
THEY'VE GOT SOMETHING TO WORK FOR--THEIR HOMES AND THEIR LIVES!

I THINK IT'S ABOUT TIME YOU AND DIANA FLEW BACK TO MORRISTOWN.
I'M GOING TO HATE MISSING THE FIREWORKS.

THIS WILL BE NO PLACE FOR HER.
I KNOW. DO YOU THINK SHE'LL WANT TO LEAVE?

I HEARD THAT--AND THE ANSWER IS--NO!
Continued:

AS THE JUNGLE PEOPLE LABOR ON THE OOLAN RIVER LINE--WORKING AGAINST TIME BEFORE THE MAIN JAP PUSH BEGINS--

NOW, DIANA--
THE ANSWER IS NO. I AM NOT GOING TO LEAVE.

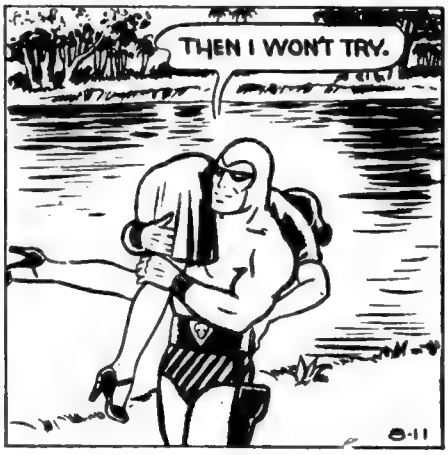
DIANA, DARLING, THIS IS WAR. WHEN THE JAPS REACH THIS RIVER--IT'LL TURN INTO AN INFERNO.
8-10

IT'S NO PLACE FOR YOU.
THE ANSWER IS STILL--NO!

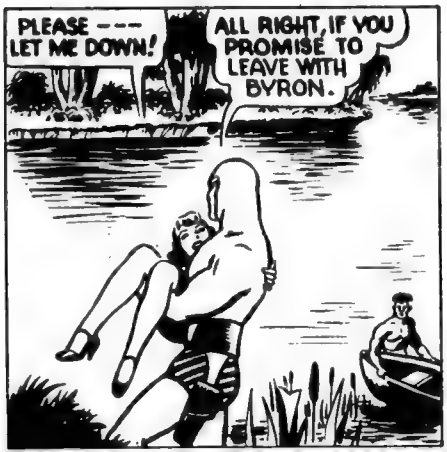
DIANA--YOUR PLANE IS STILL ON CRYSTAL LAKE--
THESE JUNGLE WOMEN ARE STAYING--TO HELP AS BEST THEY CAN. I WON'T LEAVE, JUST BECAUSE I'VE A PLANE--AND THEY HAVEN'T.

BYRON--WILL YOU TELL HER SHE MUST LEAVE?
DON'T GET ME INTO THIS.

NOW--LET'S FORGET ABOUT IT. DON'T YOU KNOW YOU CAN'T WIN AN ARGUMENT WITH A WOMAN?


THEN I WON'T TRY.
8-11

LET ME DOWN!
SO YOU CAN SWIM BACK TO THE OTHER SIDE? OH, NO! THERE'S A PLANE WAITING FOR YOU.
8-12


PLEASE --- LET ME DOWN!
ALL RIGHT, IF YOU PROMISE TO LEAVE WITH BYRON.

I DIDN'T PROMISE--AND YOU CAN'T MAKE ME LEAVE--I'M GOING TO STAY HERE!

BYRON--MAKE HIM PUT ME DOWN!
I WOULDN'T TRY TO MAKE HIM DO ANYTHING--WITHOUT AN ANTI-TANK GUN.

PLEASE-- LET ME DOWN.
NOPE -- DID THAT ONCE.
MUST BE SOMETHING LIKE RIDING ON A CAMEL.
BUY WAR BONDS AND STAMPS

I PROMISE -- TO BE GOOD.
8-13

OH, DARLING--DON'T YOU KNOW THAT IT'S YOU I DON'T WANT TO LEAVE?

IF HE DIDN'T, HE KNOWS IT NOW.

WE'LL FLY BACK TO MORRISTOWN-- I'LL REPORT YOUR WORK ON THE OOLAN RIVER LINE--AND SEE IF I CAN HURRY ALONG REINFORCEMENTS.

YOUR PLANE IS WAITING, MADAM.
NO, BYRON--I DON'T WANT TO GO!

PLEASE--LET ME STAY HERE WITH YOU-- DON'T MAKE ME GO AWAY! I'M AFRAID--
OF WHAT, DIANA? YOU'LL BE IN MORRISTOWN IN A FEW HOURS.
8-14

I DON'T KNOW--I HAVE A FEELING THAT I SHOULDN'T GO-- I'M AFRAID--LET ME STAY-- PLEASE!

PLEASE--PLEASE LET ME STAY HERE --SOMEHOW--I'M AFRAID--
YOU'RE GETTING OUT BEFORE THE JAPS GET HERE--
BUY WAR BONDS AND STAMPS

DIANA--I'M GOING TO MISS YOU--JUST AS MUCH AS YOU MISS ME--

WHEN WILL WE SEE YOU AGAIN?
AS SOON AS WE CRACK THE JAPS!

THAT WASN'T LIKE DIANA-TO BE AFRAID. NOTHING CAN HAPPEN TO HER. NOTHING MUST HAPPEN---
8-15
Continued.

GOODBYE--DIANA--AND BYRON--WELL, I FEEL BETTER--NOW THAT SHE'S OUT OF DANGER.

I ALWAYS HATE TO SAY GOOD-BYE TO HIM BUT WE'LL BE SEEING HIM SOON.
I WONDER--

SUDDENLY--A NEW SOUND COMES FROM THE CLOUDS--A DULL POWERFUL HUM—

8-17
--AS JAP ZEROS COME ROARING FROM THE NORTH!

HOLD TIGHT, DIANA. THEY'RE JAPS!
WHO ARE THEY?

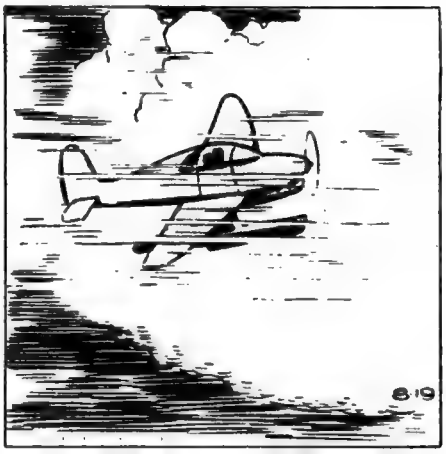
THE JAP ZEROS SPOT THE UNARMED SEAPLANE--

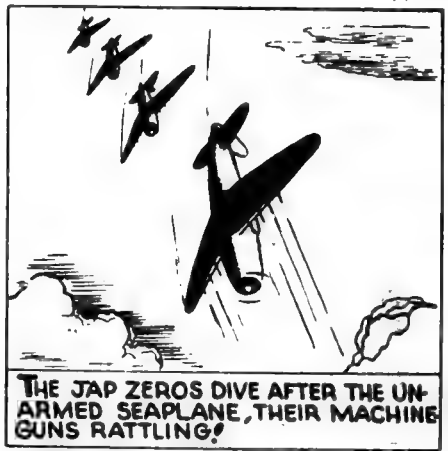
8-18
AND DIVE AT IT LIKE ANGRY HORNETS!

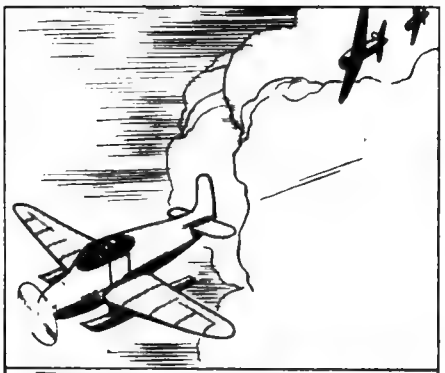
ON THE BEACH, THE PHANTOM RUNS HELPLESSLY--AS THE TRAGEDY HIGH IN THE AIR ABOVE BEGINS TO UNFOLD!

HELPLESS, THE PHANTOM WATCHES--A SILENT PRAYER ON HIS LIPS--

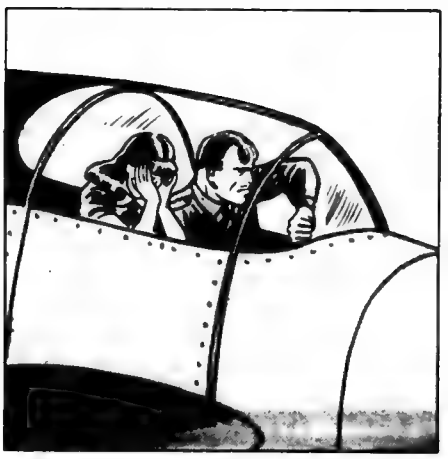
THEY'RE COMING AFTER US!
THEY'RE FASTER THAN WE ARE! I'LL TRY TO LOSE THEM IN THE CLOUDS! IT'S OUR ONLY CHANCE!

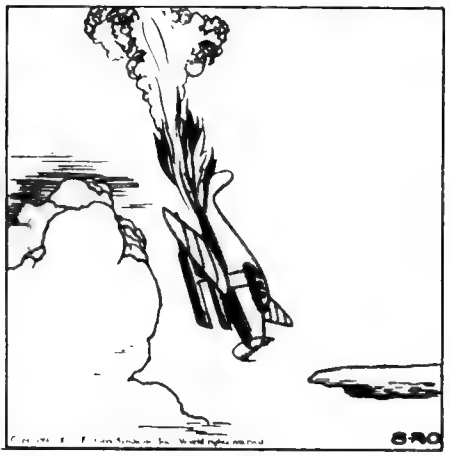

8-19


THE JAP ZEROS DIVE AFTER THE UNARMED SEAPLANE, THEIR MACHINE GUNS RATTLING!

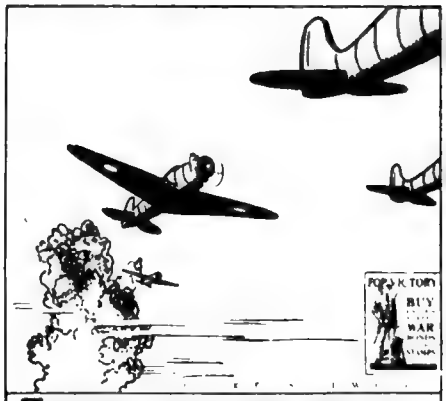


THE SEAPLANE EMERGES FROM THE CLOUDS WITH THE JAP ZEROS HOT ON ITS TAIL--





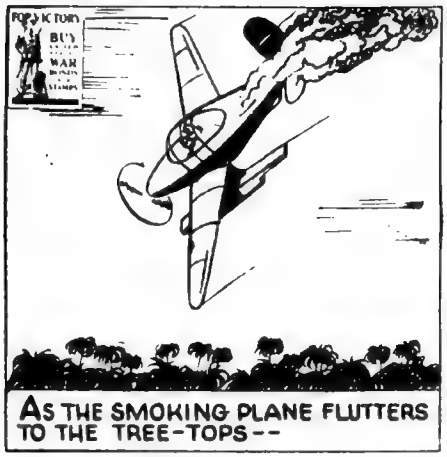
THE JAP ZEROS CIRCLE DIANA'S STRICKEN SEAPLANE, AS IT FALLS-



THE JAP ZEROS VEER HIGH AND AWAY--THEIR JOB DONE--

HE HAS SEEN DIANA'S SMOKING PLANE DISAPPEAR BELOW THE TREETOPS --

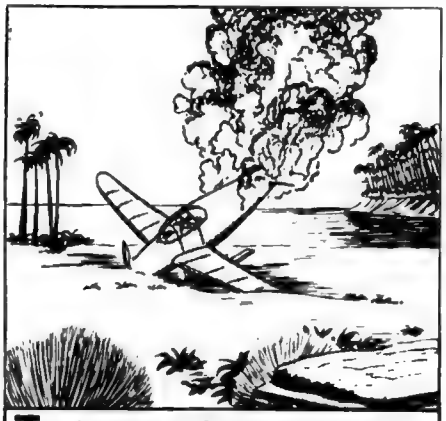
Continued


AS THE SMOKING PLANE FLUTTERS TO THE TREE-TOPS--

--BYRON MANAGES TO PULL THE STRICKEN CRAFT OUT OF ITS HEAD-LONG DIVE--

HOLD TIGHT--WE MAY BE ABLE TO WEATHER A CRASH-LANDING IN THAT STRETCH OF SAND.

THE AIR-DUEL AND THE FATE OF THE SEAPLANE HAVE BEEN WATCHED BY MORE THAN ONE PAIR OF INTEREST-ED EYES.


THE SEAPLANE COMES TO REST--

THE GROUND NEVER LOOKED SO GOOD!
THIS IS ONE TIME WE'LL NEVER FORGET!

I'M EXHAUSTED--HOW DO YOU FEEL?
FINE--I'M AFRAID I CRACKED MY ANKLE WHEN WE HIT--

YOUR SHOULDER'S WOUNDED--YOU WERE HIT!
YES, I'M IN GREAT SHAPE. IF I WEREN'T SO HAPPY TO BE HERE, I'D PASS OUT.

BYRON!

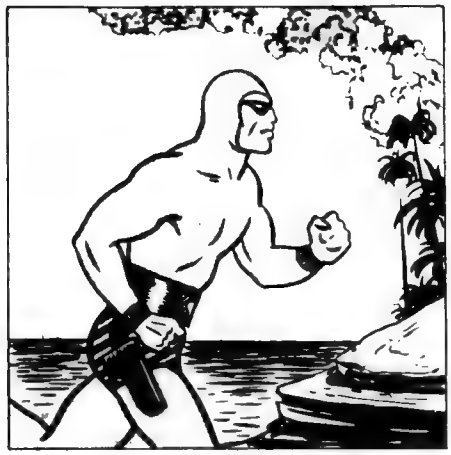
THERE'S A GUN IN THE PLANE--IF I CAN GET TO IT--
YOU CAN'T--THEY'LL SHOOT--

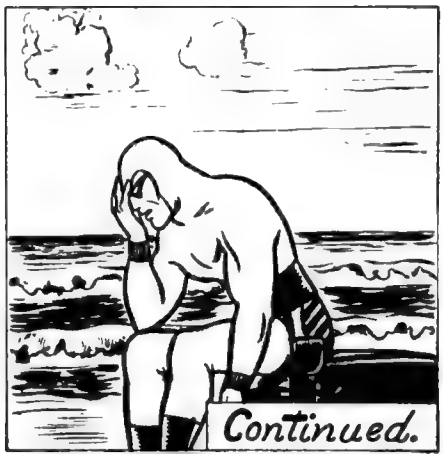
FLAMES IN THE FUEL LINES FINALLY REACH THE GAS TANKS--

THAT SETTLES THAT. AT LEAST, THEY WON'T GET THE PLANE.
YOU ALWAYS DID LOOK ON THE BRIGHT SIDE.

AS THE PHANTOM RACES THRU THE WOODS, SEVERAL PYGMIES, WHO HAD WATCHED THE AIR-DUEL, JOIN HIM--

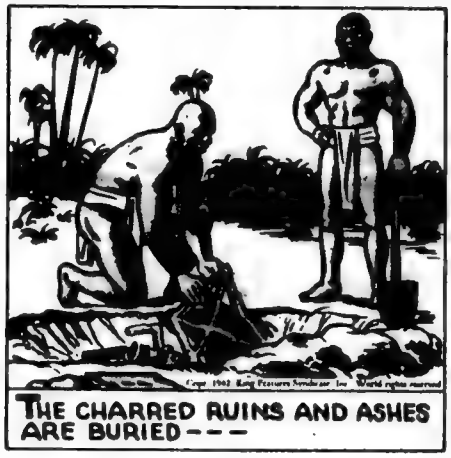
MORE SLIP OUT OF THE JUNGLE BUSH TO FOLLOW THEIR PROTECTOR, AS HE RUNS ON--SILENTLY--ALMOST BLINDLY--





THE PHANTOM DOES NOT KNOW THAT DIANA AND BYRON ESCAPED FROM THE PLANE BEFORE IT BURNED.

8-31


THE CHARRED RUINS AND ASHES ARE BURIED---

NIGHT COMES--THE PHANTOM REMAINS--FILLED WITH BITTER, HOPELESS THOUGHTS OF WHAT MIGHT HAVE BEEN----

FOR VICTORY
BUY
WAR
BONDS
AND
STAMPS
BUT DIANA AND BYRON, UNKNOWN TO THE PHANTOM, ARE NOT DEAD --BUT ARE IN THE HANDS OF THE JAPS---

I WISH HE'D TAKE THAT RIFLE OUT OF MY MOUTH. I'M NOT THAT HUNGRY!
MAYBE HE DOESN'T TRUST US.
8-1

IT'S GETTING MONOTONOUS--THE WAY WE KEEP FALLING INTO THEIR HANDS.
THE WOODS ARE FULL OF THEM.

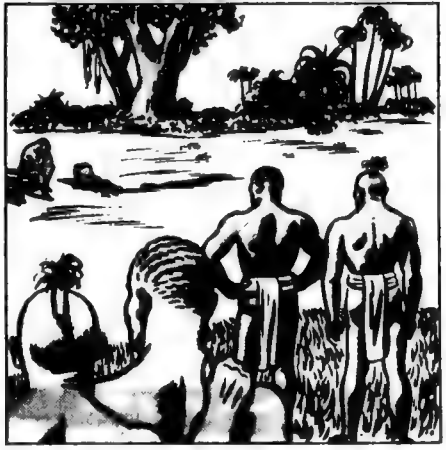
AREN'T WE EVER GOING TO BE RID OF THEM?
NOT TILL THEY'RE DRIVEN BACK TO TOKYO!

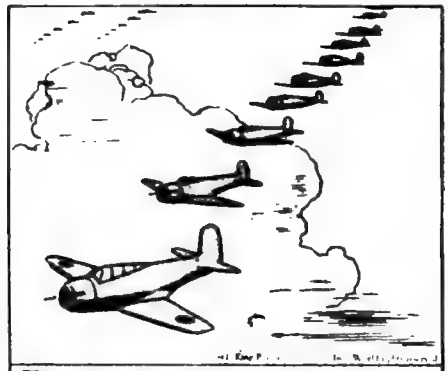
BYRON, I JUST THOUGHT OF SOMETHING! HE MUST HAVE SEEN OUR PLANE FALL!
YOU MEAN THE PHANTOM?

YES! HE PROBABLY FOUND THE BURNED RUINS OF THE PLANE --AND THINKS WE'RE--DEAD.
WELL-WE'RE NOT IN A VERY COZY SPOT.

HE'S BLAMING HIMSELF FOR FORCING ME INTO THAT PLANE--BLAMING HIMSELF FOR MY DEATH!

OH, BYRON--HE MUST BE TORTURING HIMSELF! IF ONLY I COULD TELL HIM WE'RE ALIVE!
9-R



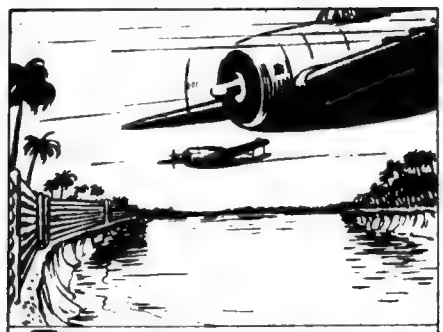


FIRST SOFTLY, THEN LOUDER, COMES THE THUNDER OF A GREAT AIR ARMADA! JAPS! THE BIG PUSH HAS BEGUN!

THE LONG-AWAITED **BIG PUSH** OF THE JAPS HAS COME TO BENGALI-

THE WOODS ARE ALIVE WITH THE ROAR OF MACHINES THAT BEAR THE INVADERS!

LEADERLESS, THE NATIVES COWER HELPLESSLY AT THE OOLAN RIVER FORTIFICATIONS THAT THEY'D BUILT UNDER THE PHANTOM'S DIRECTION.



THE BIG JAP PUSH IS ON! AT THE OOLAN RIVER LINE, THE LEADERLESS NATIVES WILT UNDER THE DEADLY MACHINE-GUN FIRE FROM THE AIR---

THRILLED BY THE SIGHT OF THEIR LEADER, WHO THEY THOUGHT HAD DESERTED THEM, THE JUNGLE FOLK MAN THEIR GUNS! A SURPRISE IS IN STORE FOR THE JAPS!

THE JAP PILOTS WERE EXPECTING A QUIET DAY--AN EASY SLAUGHTER OF DEFENSELESS NATIVES---

BUT THESE JUNGLE WARRIORS CAN PUT AN ARROW BETWEEN THE EYES OF A LEOPARD AT ONE HUNDRED YARDS--

FOR THEM, THESE LOW-FLYING JAP PLANES ARE LIKE FISH IN A BARREL!

THE BATTLE WAXES HOTTER--BUT IT CAN'T BECOME TOO HOT FOR THE PHANTOM! HE'S TRYING TO FORGET---FORGET--

A HALF-HOUR PASSES--BYRON AND DIANA PRETEND TO DOZE--THE JAP RELAXES HIS GUARD---

BYRON MOVES SUDDENLY CATCHING THE GUARD BY SURPRISE--

YOUR TURN, CABBY!
BYRON SWINGS AGAIN, THIS TIME AT THE JAP DRIVER--

I'LL GET THE WHEEL! WE'RE RUNNING WILD!

THE OLD MASTER--THE PHANTOM--COULDN'T HAVE HANDLED THAT BETTER--IF I DO SAY SO, MYSELF!
BYRON! DO YOU HEAR SOMETHING --COMING THIS WAY?
9-10

BUY WAR BONDS & STAMPS
SOMETHING! JAP TANKS--MOVING-FORWARD FOR THE BIG PUSH! CLANKING PONDEROUSLY IN THE JUNGLE NIGHT LIKE STEEL ELEPHANTS!

THAT NOISE YOU HEAR SOUNDS LIKE A MILLION JAP TANKS COMING THIS WAY--QUICK, GET INTO THE BUSHES AND UNDRESS!
WHAT?

YOU'RE JOINING HIROHITO'S IMPERIAL TANK CORPS -- THE FIRST AMERICAN GIRL IN HISTORY -- SO MAKE LIKE A JAP.
I DON'T KNOW IF YOU'RE INSPIRED -- OR CRAZY.
9-11

BYRON, CAN WE GET AWAY WITH IT?
WE CAN TRY. HOW'S YOUR UNIFORM FOR SIZE? MINE'S A BIT ON THE SNUG SIDE.

HOW DO I LOOK?
TAILOR-MADE.

THE TANKS ARE JUST AROUND THE BEND!
WE'VE GOT TO MOVE FAST, DIANA!
9-12

NO TIME TO TIE UP THESE BIRDS--

HURRY--HURRY--!
HERE WE GO!

Continued

I'M SO SCARED, MY HEART'S READY TO POP OUT!
I'M NOT EXACTLY IN A HOLIDAY, MOOD MYSELF.
DIANA AND BYRON FIND THEMSELVES AT THE HEAD OF A DOUBLE FILE OF JAP TANKS---
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IF MAMA COULD SEE ME NOW!
TOO BAD WE CAN'T STOP TO GET SNAPSHOTS.
9-14

WHAT DO WE DO NOW?
WE KEEP OUR FINGERS CROSSED.

OOH--MY HAT ALMOST BLEW OFF!
KEEP YOUR HAT ON, DIANA! IF YOUR HAIR STARTS STREAMING-- WE'RE A COUPLE OF DEAD PIGEONS!
9-15
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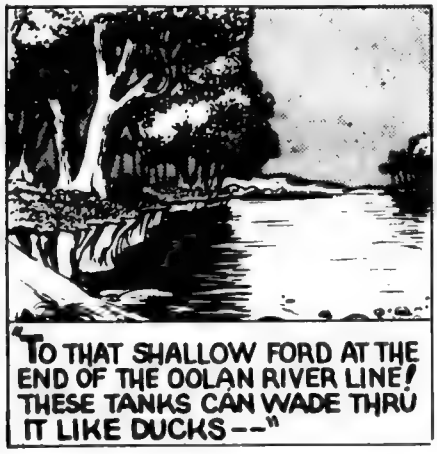
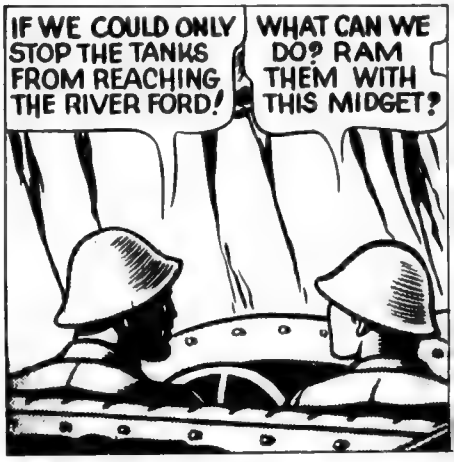
I'VE GOT THIS FIGURED OUT. THIS IS AN ADVANCED SCOUT CAR FOR THAT TANK UNIT. DO YOU KNOW WHERE THIS ROAD LEADS?


TO THAT SHALLOW FORD AT THE END OF THE OOLAN RIVER LINE! THESE TANKS CAN WADE THRU IT LIKE DUCKS--"

THEN--THEY CAN FLANK THE LINE --AND COME UP BEHIND THE PHANTOM'S BOYS! IF WE COULD ONLY STOP THEM--OR WARN HIM!
TOMORROW--TRAINED SEALS


IF WE COULD ONLY STOP THE TANKS FROM REACHING THE RIVER FORD!
WHAT CAN WE DO? RAM THEM WITH THIS MIDGET?

9-16

SEE THAT! THEY FOLLOWED US LIKE TRAINED SEALS! THAT GIVES ME AN IDEA!
ME, TOO!

LET'S TURN OFF THE ROAD AND SEE IF THE TANKS FOLLOW US.
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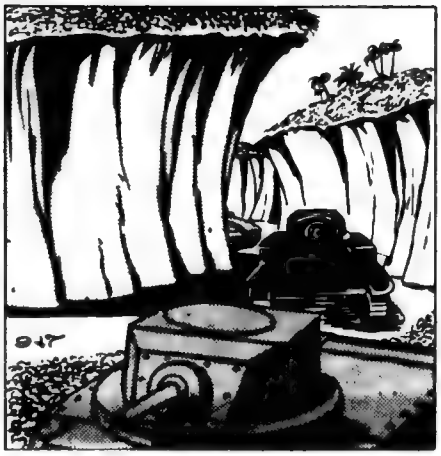

NOW--IF WE COULD ONLY FIND SOME QUICKSAND--
OR A NICE GOOEY SWAMP!

TOMORROW--TWO FLAMING ARROWS!

THE NATIVE SENTRY SPOTS THE TANKS IN THE JUNGLE BELOW --HE QUICKLY IGNITES THE TWO ARROWS---

THE SENTRY IS SPOTTED--BUT HIS WORK IS DONE---

TWO ARROWS! JAP TANKS--IN THE LOULAN SECTOR! TO THE GUNS!
9-18
Tomorrow--BOMBARDMENT!

9-19
THE OOLAN RIVER LINE, BUILT BY THE LABOR OF THE JUNGLE PEOPLE--GETS ITS FIRST WORK-OUT!

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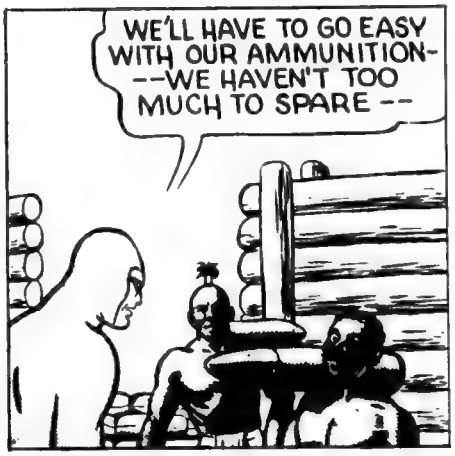
THE JAP TANKS, MESHED IN THE THICK JUNGLES, ARE AT THE RECEIVING END--!

AND YOU SAID THOSE NATIVES COULDN'T SHOOT!
I'M EATING MY WORDS--PROBABLY THE LAST THING I'LL EAT---
Continued.

THE NATIVE GUNNERS OF THE OOLAN LINE FIND THE RANGE OF THE JAP TANKS --

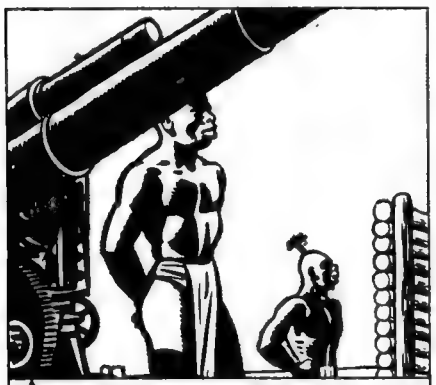
THE LONG FILES OF TANKS COME TO A HALT--UNABLE TO ADVANCE ---

TRAPPED IN THE DENSE WOODS WHERE THEY WERE LED BY DIANA AND BYRON --THE TANKS MILL ABOUT HOPELESSLY--



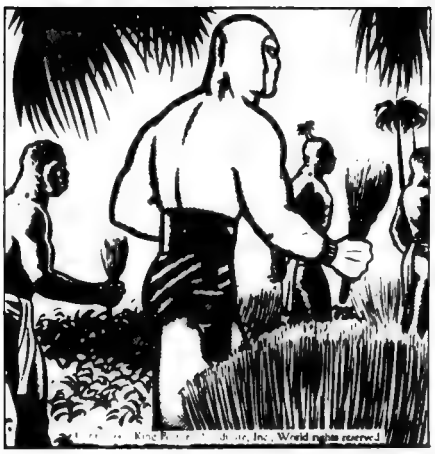
WHAT IS THE PHANTOM GOING TO DO?

THE PHANTOM AND HIS NATIVE CREW REACH THE FAR BANK OF THE OOLAN ---


AT THAT MOMENT THE OOLAN GUNS CEASE FIRE --

IN THE WOODS --THE INFERNO SUDDENLY STOPS--THE SMOKE CLEARS --

WHAT'LL WE DO, BYRON?
THE TANK COLUMNS ARE REFORMING-- WHAT'S LEFT OF THEM. WE'LL HAVE TO KEEP AHEAD OF THEM.

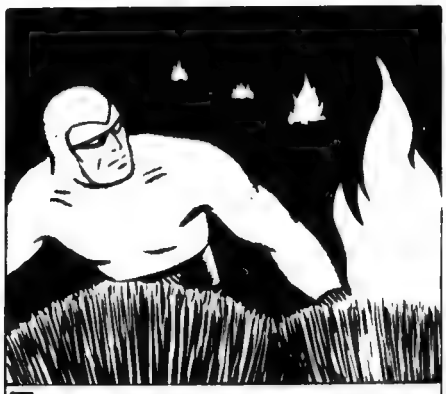


SPREAD OUT IN A GREAT CIRCLE. WHEN YOU SEE MY FIRE--LIGHT YOUR TORCHES AND FIRE THE WOODS!

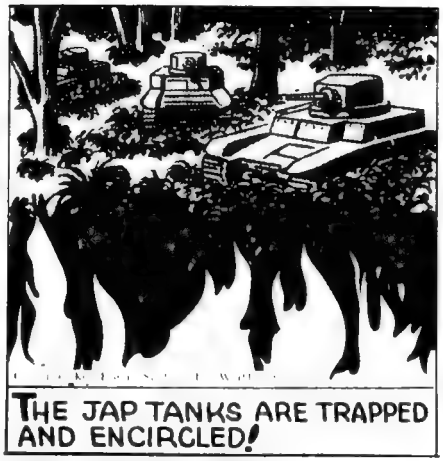
DESPITE THE DANGER AND HEAT OF BATTLE, HE CANNOT FOR ONE MOMENT FORGET DIANA, WHOM HE BELIEVES DEAD.

IN THE DARK WOODS THE PHANTOM RAISES A FLAMING TORCH. IT IS A SIGNAL!

WHAT ARE THOSE? FIREFLIES?
NO! FIRE!


THE PHANTOM AND HIS NATIVES SET FIRE TO THE WOODS--

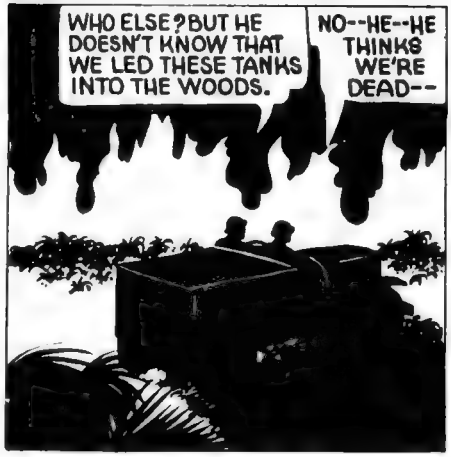
A GREAT CIRCLE OF FIRE SPREADS RAPIDLY THRU THE DRY UNDERBRUSH--AND CLIMBS INTO THE TREES--


THE JAP TANKS ARE TRAPPED AND ENCIRCLED!

MARVELOUS! THE TANKS CAN NEVER GET THRU THOSE FLAMES!
MAYBE WE CAN'T-- EITHER--
CONTINUED

THE PHANTOM AND HIS NATIVE CREW HAVE FIRED THE WOODS, TRAPPING THE JAP TANKS!

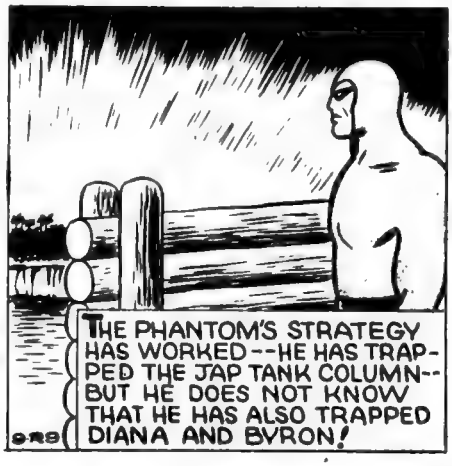
WE'LL HAVE TO TRY ANOTHER DIRECTION. THIS ROAD IS CLOSED!
DO YOU THINK THE PHANTOM STARTED THESE FIRES?


WHO ELSE? BUT HE DOESN'T KNOW THAT WE LED THESE TANKS INTO THE WOODS.
NO--HE--HE THINKS WE'RE DEAD--

HE MAY BE RIGHT--WE'RE SURROUNDED BY FLAMES! THERE'S NO WAY OUT!
9-28

LOOK OUT-- THAT TANK!

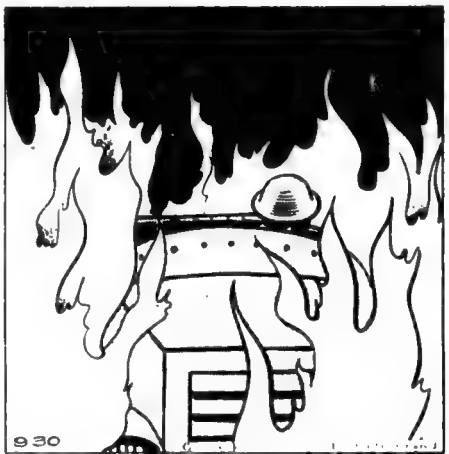
IT'S--GETTING HOT--
THE FLAMES ARE CLOSING IN ON US--
THEY SPEED IN CIRCLES--TRYING TO FIND A BREAK IN THE WALL OF FLAMES --BUT THERE IS NO WAY OUT--


THE PHANTOM'S STRATEGY HAS WORKED--HE HAS TRAPPED THE JAP TANK COLUMN--BUT HE DOES NOT KNOW THAT HE HAS ALSO TRAPPED DIANA AND BYRON!
9-29

THERE'S FIRE EVERYWHERE! NO USE PARKING HERE UNTIL WE'RE BARBECUED.
WHAT CAN WE DO?

WE'LL HAVE TO TAKE A CHANCE. CLIMB IN BACK AND GET ON THE FLOOR, DIANA.
HOW ABOUT YOU, BYRON?

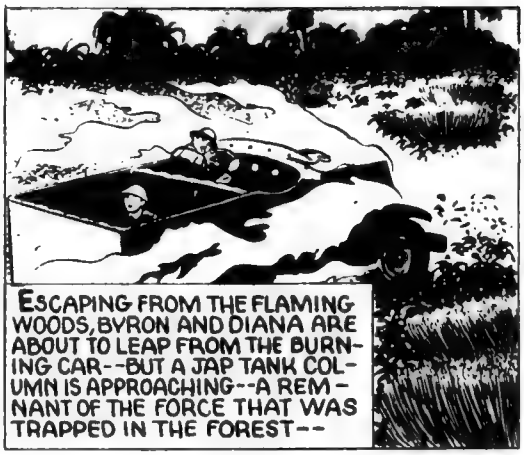
I'LL BE ALL RIGHT KEEP DOWN!


9-30

CAPTAIN BYRON DRIVES INTO THE WALL OF FIRE--

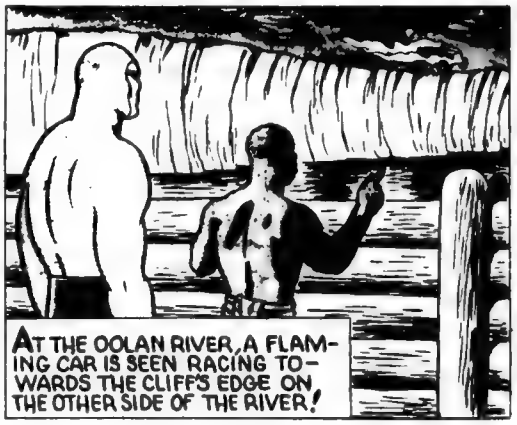
DIANA HUDDLES ON THE FLOOR

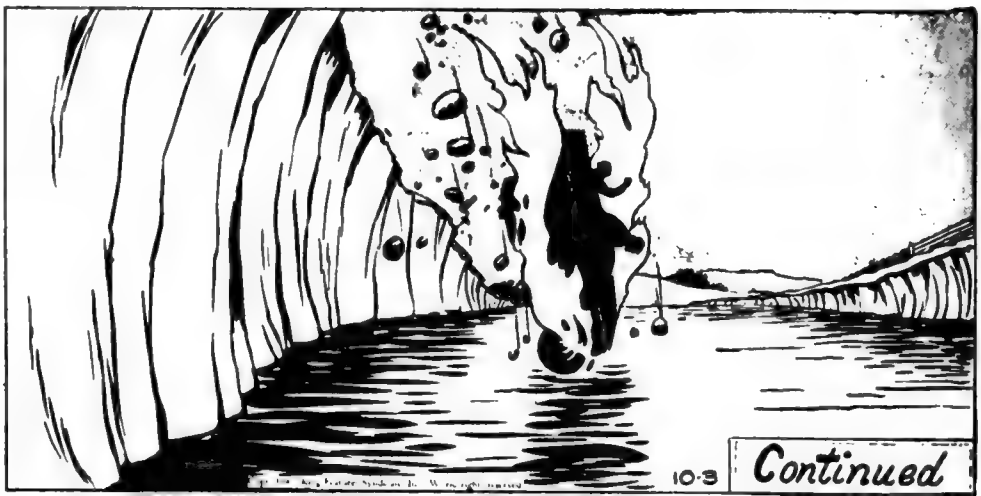
10-1
THE BLAZING CAR EMERGES FROM THE WOODS!

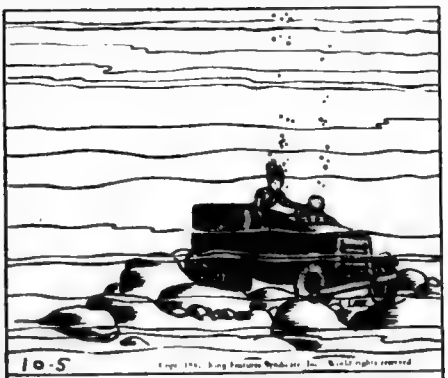

ESCAPING FROM THE FLAMING WOODS, BYRON AND DIANA ARE ABOUT TO LEAP FROM THE BURNING CAR--BUT A JAP TANK COLUMN IS APPROACHING--A REMNANT OF THE FORCE THAT WAS TRAPPED IN THE FOREST--

RATHER THAN STOP AND RISK DISCOVERY AND CAPTURE--BYRON DRIVES ON--GRIMLY--

10-2


AT THE OOLAN RIVER, A FLAMING CAR IS SEEN RACING TOWARDS THE CLIFF'S EDGE ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE RIVER!

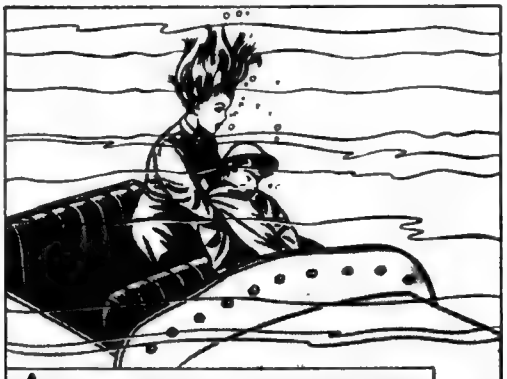

10-3
Continued



DIANA AND BYRON ARE AT THE RIVER BOTTOM--DIANA CLIMBS OUT FROM THE BACK SEAT--

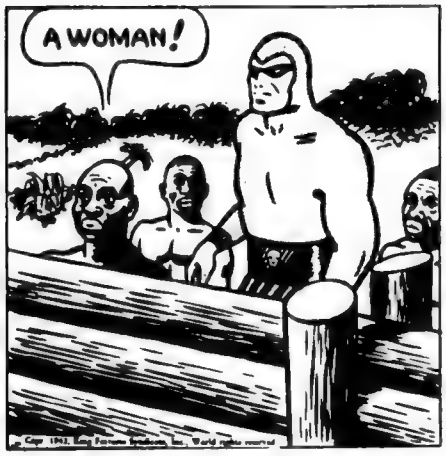
THE WATCHERS ON THE OOLAN LINE BELIEVE BYRON AND DIANA TO BE JAP SOLDIERS--

HURRIEDLY, SHE TRIES TO PULL BYRON OUT--BUT HE IS CAUGHT BEHIND THE WHEEL--WEDGED IN--

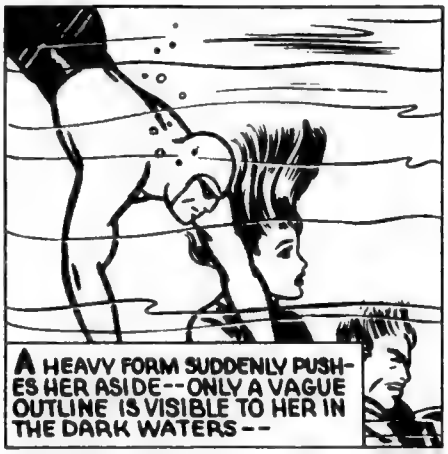


AS THE PRECIOUS SECONDS PASS, DIANA TUGS AT BYRON--BUT SHE CAN'T FREE HIM--

SHE POPS TO THE SURFACE, HER LUNGS BURSTING FOR AIR--

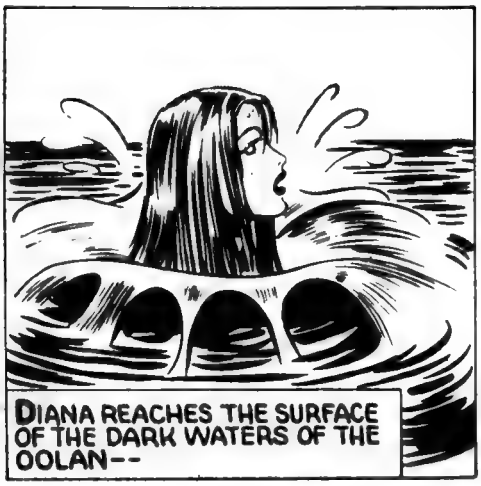


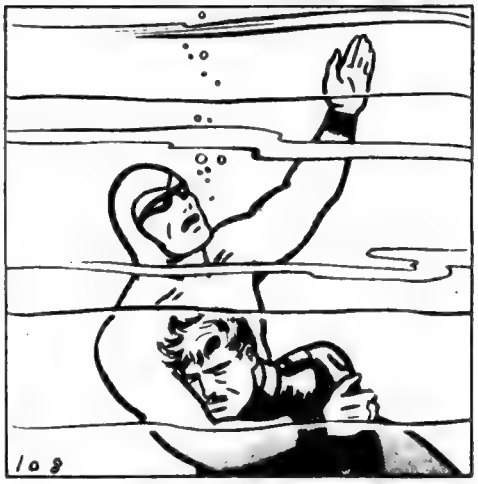
HER LUNGS FILLED WITH AIR--DIANA SWIMS DOWN TO-WARDS BYRON--



A HEAVY FORM SUDDENLY PUSHES HER ASIDE--ONLY A VAGUE OUTLINE IS VISIBLE TO HER IN THE DARK WATERS--

BYRON IS WEDGED IN TIGHTLY--SO WITH A SINGLE POWERFUL TUG, THE PHANTOM BREAKS THE STEERING-WHEEL--

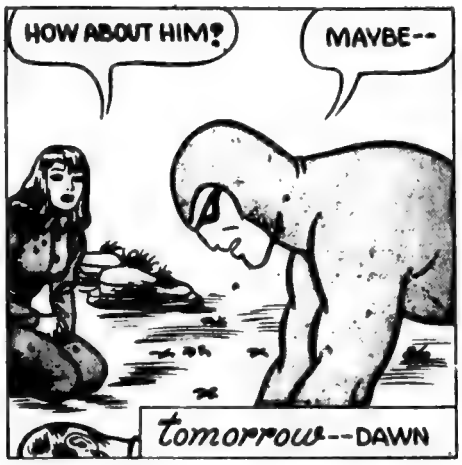

DIANA REACHES THE SURFACE OF THE DARK WATERS OF THE OOLAN--


10 8

DIANA!
THERE, IN THE MOONLIGHT--HE SEES HER--WHOM HE HAD GIVEN UP FOR DEAD---

THEY SWIM TO THE SHORE---
10 9

YOU'RE--ALIVE--
BARELY--


HOW ABOUT HIM?
MAYBE--
tomorrow--DAWN

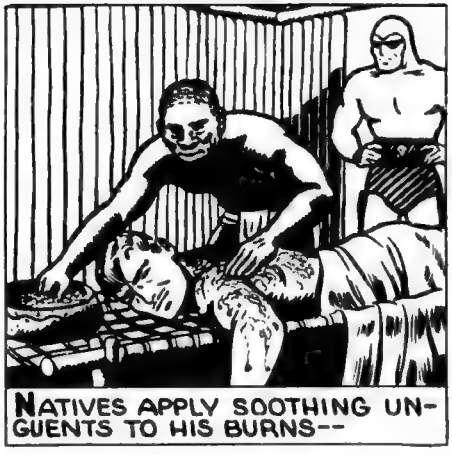
THE PHANTOM CONTINUES THE ARTIFICIAL RESPIRATION--
10-10

IS HE--?
NOTHING YET--I'LL KEEP TRYING--YOU'RE EXHAUSTED--TRY TO SLEEP.

HE WORKS ON--HOUR AFTER HOUR PASSES --

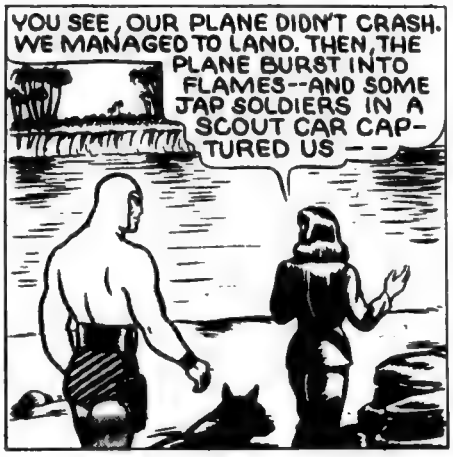
HE'S BREATHING!
AND THEN, AS DAWN BREAKS OVER THE OOLAN-- CONT'D.

THE PHANTOM REVIVES BYRON, WHO HAS BEEN BADLY BURNED AND NEARLY DROWNED--


NATIVES APPLY SOOTHING UNGUENTS TO HIS BURNS--

HE HAD A CLOSE SCRAPE--BUT HE'LL LIVE--
THANK HEAVENS!

AT LAST--DARLING! I--I THOUGHT YOU WERE--
DON'T TALK--JUST HOLD ME TIGHT!
10-12


YOU SEE, OUR PLANE DIDN'T CRASH. WE MANAGED TO LAND. THEN, THE PLANE BURST INTO FLAMES--AND SOME JAP SOLDIERS IN A SCOUT CAR CAPTURED US--

THEN--WE CAPTURED THEM--THEIR SCOUT CAR--AND THEIR UNIFORMS--

THEN, WE WERE TRAPPED WITH THE TANKS IN THAT BOMBARDMENT--AND IN THE FOREST FIRE THAT YOU STARTED--WE DROVE THRU THE FLAMES--

--AND ENDED UP AT THE BOTTOM OF THE RIVER. THAT'S WHERE YOU CAME IN.
YOU'VE HAD A BUSY DAY.
10-13

HOW AM I?
HALF-DROWNED AND BADLY BURNED. A BULLET WOUND IN YOUR SHOULDER AND A CRACKED ANKLE. OTHERWISE, FIT AS A FIDDLE.

MIGHT AS WELL THROW ME BACK INTO THE RIVER. SAY--I'VE GOT TO HAND IT TO YOU--THE WAY YOU TRAPPED THOSE TANKS WITH THE FOREST FIRE--EVEN THO WE WERE CAUGHT IN IT--
10-14

BYRON, I'M PROUD OF YOU.
THAT'S MY DIPLOMA. I'D RATHER HEAR THAT FROM YOU THAN GET ALL THE MEDALS IN THE WORLD!

HE NEEDS REST--BUT HE'LL PULL THRU. I'LL NEVER BE ABLE TO REPAY HIM FOR BRINGING YOU BACK TO ME.
NOR WILL I.

ALL MY CLOTHES WERE BURNED IN THE FIRE. I'M SICK OF WEARING THIS JAP UNIFORM.
I THINK WE CAN DO SOMETHING ABOUT THAT.
10-15

TRY THIS ON FOR SIZE, DIANA.

I WORRIED MORE ABOUT THAT THAN ANYTHING ELSE.
WE BURIED WHAT WAS LEFT OF THE PLANE---
10-16

HOW DO I LOOK?
IF I WERE A POET-- WHICH I'M NOT-- I COULD ANSWER THAT QUESTION.

WHEN I THOUGHT YOUR PLANE HAD CRASHED, I--
I KNOW. YOU BLAMED YOURSELF FOR FORCING ME TO LEAVE.

IT ONLY GOES TO PROVE THAT YOU MUSTN'T SEND ME AWAY.
BUT, DIANA-- THIS IS GOING TO BE A BAD PLACE TO BE IN-

NOT WITH YOU.
I ONLY KNOW THAT I WILL NEVER SEND YOU AWAY AGAIN.

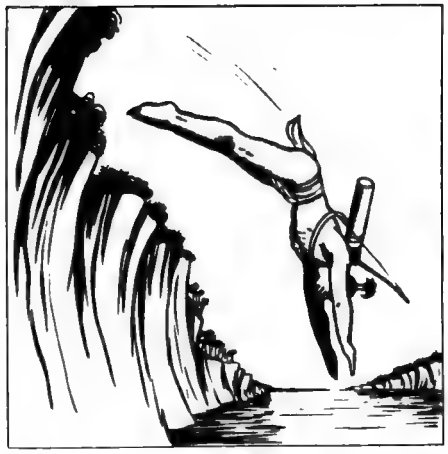
HOW DO YOU FEEL, PAL?
THE WAY I LOOK-- LIKE THE WRECK OF THE HESPERUS.

WELL! TO THINK THAT I WENT THRU FIRE AND FLOOD TO BRING BACK THAT BEAUTIFUL VISION TO YOU!
10-17

BYRON, REMEMBER HOW THOSE TANKS THOUGHT WE WERE A JAP SCOUT CAR-- ..AND FOLLOWED US INTO THE FOREST?
LIKE TRAINED DUCKS! I'LL LAUGH ABOUT THAT UNTIL I'M NINETY!

BUT NOT FAR AWAY FROM THE LAUGHTER COME THE QUIET, OMINOUS RANKS OF JAPANESE BAYONETS!
CONTINUED.

MY--HOW PEACEFUL AND QUIET IT IS HERE.
I WISH IT COULD GO ON FOREVER.



JAP TROOPS COMING!
10-19

WHERE ARE THE JAP TROOPS?
TEN MILES, TWENTY MILES ACROSS RIVER! COMING THIS WAY!

HOW MANY? WHAT KIND OF ARMS?
THOUSANDS! MILLIONS! EVERYTHING!

THAT'S NOT VERY HELPFUL! THIS IS THE BIG DRIVE. WE'VE GOT TO KNOW THEIR STRENGTH AND EQUIPMENT.
YOU EXPECT TOO MUCH. NOBODY COULD KNOW THAT, BUT THEIR GENERAL.

TRUE! THEN, I'LL HAVE TO ASK THEIR GENERAL.
10-20

ARE YOU MAD? YOU CAN'T CAPTURE A GENERAL!
I CAN TRY!

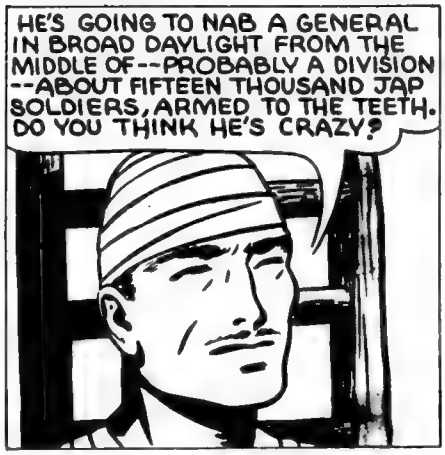
DIANA, DEAR, I WISH YOU WEREN'T HERE--THIS IS IT! THEY'LL BE COMING IN GREAT FORCE--WE'LL FIGHT--

--BUT I'M AFRAID IT'LL BE A FIGHT TO THE LAST MAN.
AND TO THE LAST WOMAN! DARLING--THE WHOLE JUNGLE DEPENDS ON YOU--

PLEASE DON'T WORRY ABOUT ME. BRING ME BACK A NICE, FAT GENERAL.
10-21

WHY NOT WAIT UNTIL DARK?
NO TIME.
10-RR

YOU'RE A BRAVE GAL, DIANA.
BRAVE? EVERY TIME HE LEAVES --I FEEL AS IF I'LL NEVER SEE HIM AGAIN---


HE'S GOING TO NAB A GENERAL IN BROAD DAYLIGHT FROM THE MIDDLE OF--PROBABLY A DIVISION --ABOUT FIFTEEN THOUSAND JAP SOLDIERS, ARMED TO THE TEETH. DO YOU THINK HE'S CRAZY?

NO. DO YOU?
NO. IF ANYONE CAN DO THE IMPOSSIBLE, HE CAN.

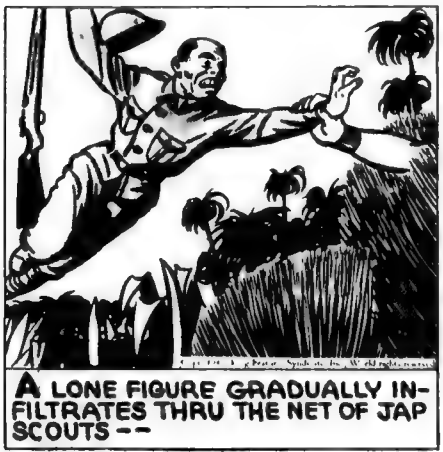
TEN MILES FROM THE OOLAN RIVER, THE LONG COLUMNS OF JAP SOLDIERS PAUSE TO REST--

THE JAP GENERAL!
10-R5

ON EITHER SIDE OF THE VAST COLUMNS, SCOUTS ROAM THE WOODS, SEARCHING FOR SNIPERS--

ALONE AGAINST FIFTEEN THOUSAND, THE PHANTOM COMES TO KIDNAP THE GENERAL!

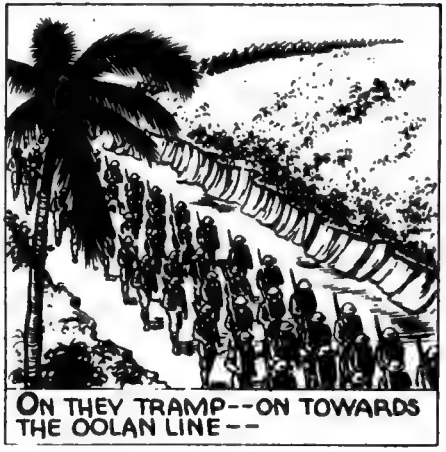
IN THE WOODS, WITHIN RIFLE SHOT OF FIFTEEN THOUSAND JAP SOLDIERS--


A LONE FIGURE GRADUALLY INFILTRATES THRU THE NET OF JAP SCOUTS--

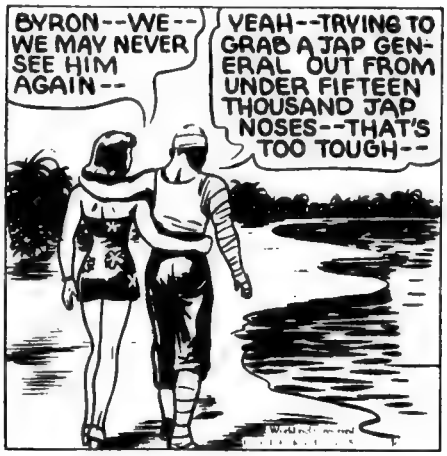
--AND GRADUALLY WORKS CLOSER TO THE MAIN COLUMNS--
10-R4

THE GENERAL IS SURROUNDED BY MILES OF SOLDIERS. CAN THE PHANTOM GET HIM?
CONT'D.

THE REST PERIOD IS OVER.


ON THEY TRAMP--ON TOWARDS THE OOLAN LINE--

AH--THE GENERAL!
10-26


BYRON--WE--WE MAY NEVER SEE HIM AGAIN--
YEAH--TRYING TO GRAB A JAP GENERAL OUT FROM UNDER FIFTEEN THOUSAND JAP NOSES--THAT'S TOO TOUGH--

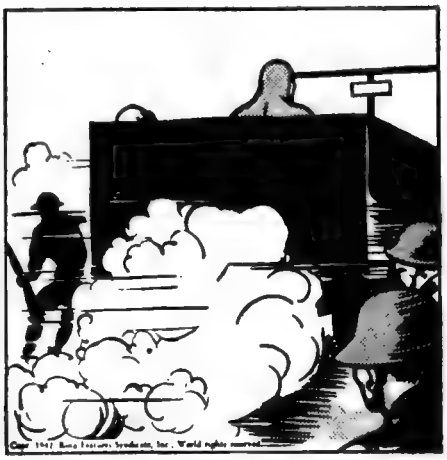
NO ONE ELSE ON EARTH WOULD THINK OF SUCH A THING! IS--THAT WHY YOU LOVE HIM?
HE'S BRAVE--BUT HE'S ALSO--OH, HE'S EVERYTHING--

YEAH--YOU KNOW, DIANA, I KINDA GO FOR YOU, TOO! NO OTHER MAN IN THE WORLD COULD MAKE ME TREAT YOU LIKE A SISTER--AND REALLY MEAN IT!
10-27

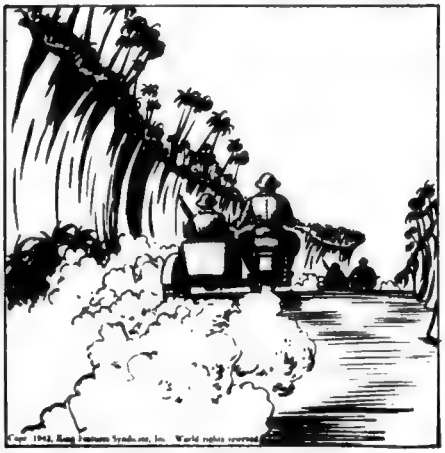
HELLO, BROTHER
HELLO, SISTER---DARN IT.

AS THE JAP GENERAL'S CAR MOVES ALONG WITH THE TROOPS----

HERE HE COMES-- A NICE, FAT GENERAL-- JUST WHAT DIANA ORDERED---
THE PHANTOM MOVES LIKE LIGHTNING--
STAY PUT, GENERAL.
10-30
-AND IN LESS TIME THAN IT TAKES TO TELL, SWINGS ON THE CHAUFFEUR. THE PHANTOM IS FIGHTING FOR KEEPS--THOSE IRON BLOWS NEED NO FOLLOW-UPS!
10-31
THE NATIVES SAY THAT THE PHANTOM MOVES FASTER THAN THE EYE CAN FOLLOW---
CERTAINLY, THE MASSED COLUMNS OF JAP SOLDIERS HAVE ONLY A VAGUE IDEA OF WHAT IS HAPPENING IN THE GENERAL'S CAR---
-AS THE PHANTOM TAKES THE WHEEL! THOUSANDS OF SOLDIERS PACK THE ROAD AHEAD! HE MAY NOT MAKE IT--HE MAY--WHATEVER HAPPENS--IT'S QUITE A TRY!
CONT'D.

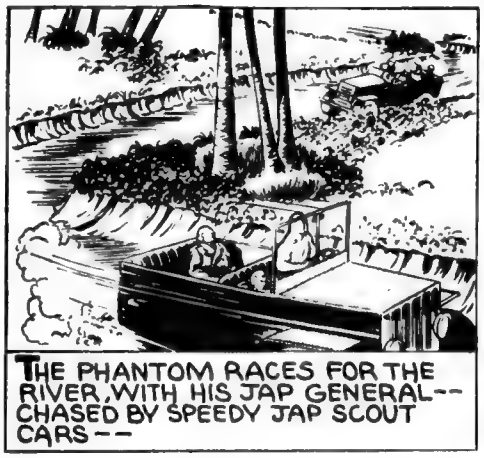


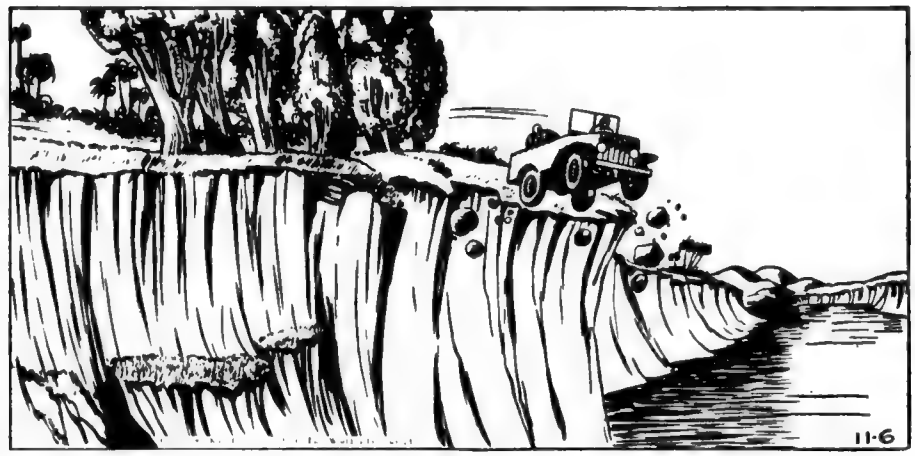
CARRYING THE JAP GENERAL AS CARGO, THE PHANTOM WHIZZES DOWN THE ROAD PACKED WITH JAP TROOPS!



THE JAP MOTORCYCLE TROOPS CLOSE IN ON THE PHANTOM'S SPEEDING CAR--

ONE MOTORCYCLE DRAWS EVEN WITH THE PHANTOM--AND AS THE JAP SOLDIER AIMS HIS TOMMY-GUN--





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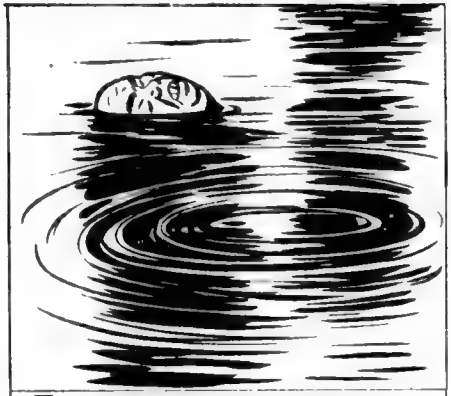
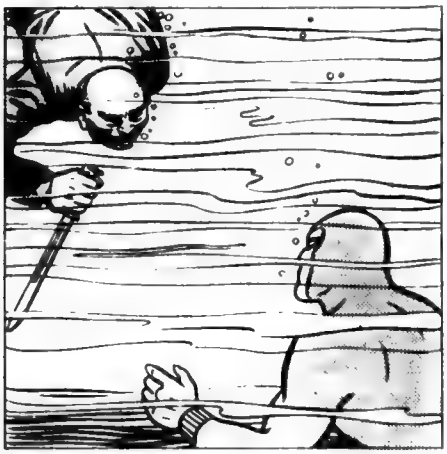
AS THE PHANTOM PULLS THE JAP GENERAL ACROSS THE RIVER--THE TWO JAP SOLDIERS SPEED TOWARD HIM WITH BAYONETS--



THE PHANTOM DIVES UNDER-WATER--

ONE OF THE SOLDIERS REACHES THE GROGGY GENERAL--



UNDERWATER--THE JAP--MOVING LIKE A FISH--LUNGES AT THE PHANTOM--

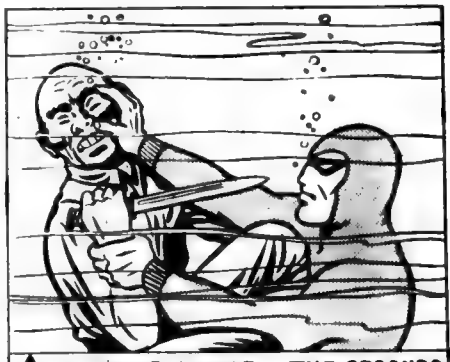
ON THE SURFACE, THE OTHER JAP SOLDIER PULLS HIS GROGGY GENERAL BACK TOWARD SHORE--

AT THAT MOMENT THE WAITING JAP GUNNERS OPEN FIRE ACROSS THE RIVER.

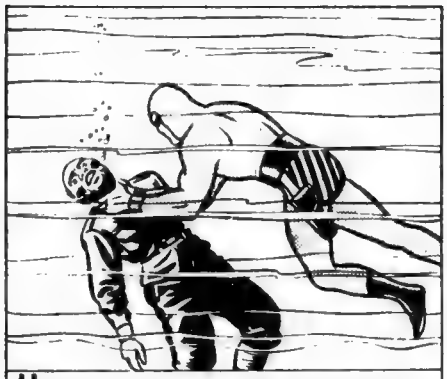
AS THE NATIVES FROM THE OOLAN LINE START INTO THE RIVER TO AID THE PHANTOM--

JAP TOMMY-GUNNERS ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE RIVER HOLD THEM AT BAY--

MEANWHILE, THE RESCUED JAP GENERAL IS PULLED BACK TO SHORE BY HIS SOLDIER--



AND UNDERWATER--THE SECONDS PASS, AS THE PHANTOM FIGHTS GRIMLY AGAINST HIS SLIPPERY, ELUSIVE OPPONENT--



UNDERWATER--THE FIGHT ENDS SUDDENLY, AS THE PHANTOM'S IRON HANDS FIND THEIR MARK--

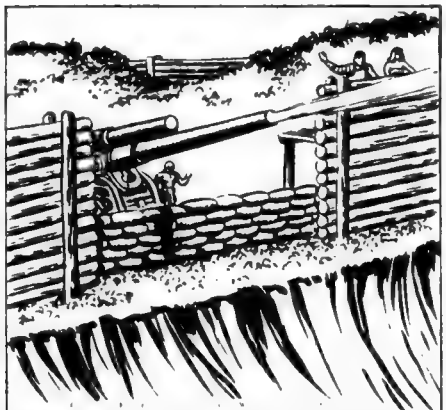
MEANWHILE, THE JAP SOLDIER NEARS SHORE WITH THE JAP GENERAL--

THE WAITING JAP SOLDIERS CHEER, AS THEIR GENERAL IS RESCUED--

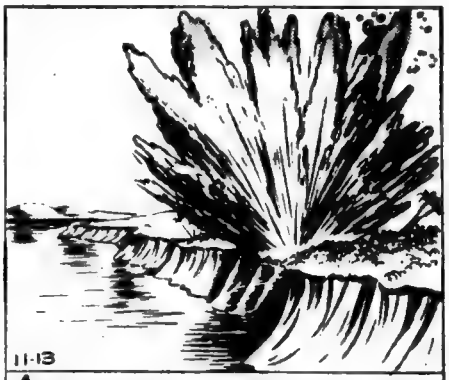
THEIR CHEERS STOP SUDDENLY--AS THE SOLDIER AND GENERAL SUDDENLY DISAPPEAR!

UNDERWATER-THE PHANTOM DRAGS THE JAP SOLDIER AND GENERAL DOWN TOWARDS THE RIVER BOTTOM--THEY STRUGGLE FEEBLY IN HIS IRON GRIP---

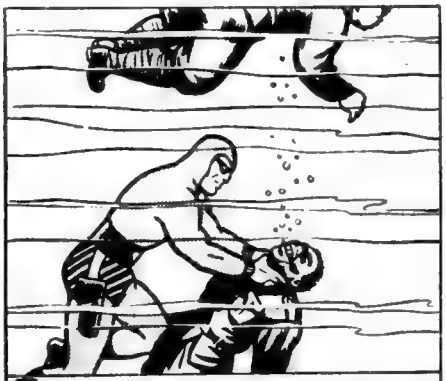
ON THE CLIFF--THE WATCHING JAPS DASH TOWARDS THE CLIFF'S EDGE--READY TO DIVE IN AFTER THEIR GENERAL--



THE GUNS OF OOLAN BOOM!



AND THE CLIFF ACROSS THE RIVER IS CLEARED OF JAP SCOUT CARS, JAP TOMMY-GUNS--AND JAPS!

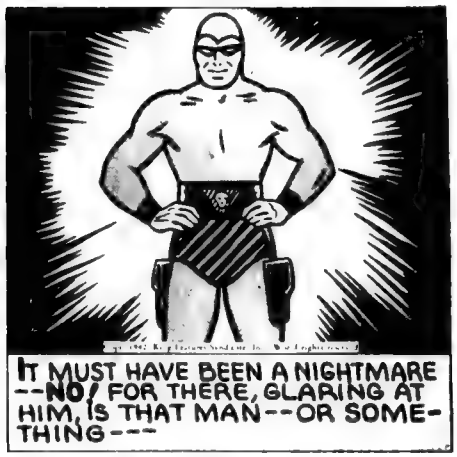


THE PHANTOM DISPATCHES THE SECOND JAP SOLDIER--NEATLY--QUICKLY--

HE'S JUST LIKE THE REST OF THEM--
--ONLY FATTER.
THE NATIVES CROWD AROUND TO SEE THE PHANTOM'S PRIZE CATCH--A JAP GENERAL!

SEE THAT MEDAL! HE'S ROYALTY! YOU'VE CAPTURED THE COMMANDANT OF THE JAP FORCES IN BENGALI!
HIS NIBS IS COMING-TO.
11-16

HIS NIBS LAST REMEMBERS RIDING IN HIS CAR AMONG HIS TROOPS --THEN, A MAN OR SOMETHING, JUMPED INTO THE CAR--AND EVERYTHING WENT BLACK--


IT MUST HAVE BEEN A NIGHTMARE --NO! FOR THERE, GLARING AT HIM, IS THAT MAN--OR SOMETHING---

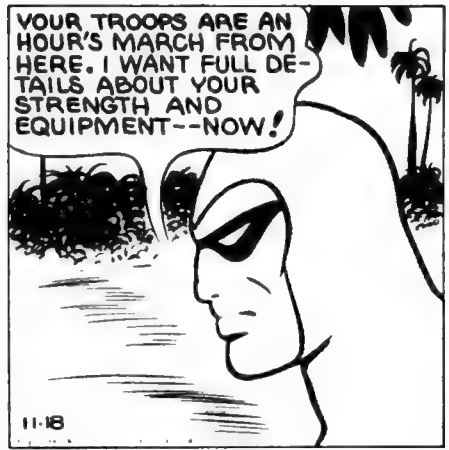
DON'T WORRY, GENERAL. HE JUST HAD LUNCH.

WHO ARE YOU? WHERE AM I?
SO YOU SPEAK ENGLISH. GOOD.

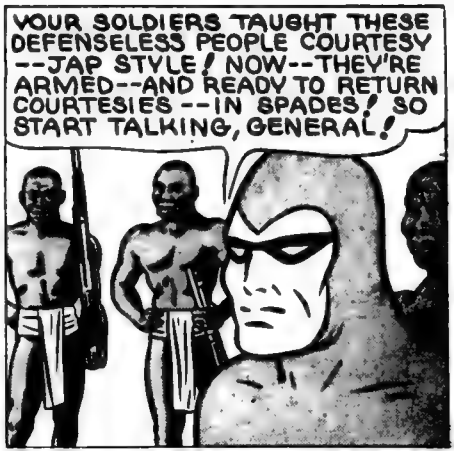
I SPEAK -SEVEN-- LANGUAGES--
11-17

AND I BET HE CAN DOUBLE-CROSS YOU IN EVERY-ONE OF 'EM!

I AM GENERAL KORMURA. I DEMAND TO BE TAKEN TO YOUR COMMANDANT!
I'M IN CHARGE HERE, GENERAL.


YOUR TROOPS ARE AN HOUR'S MARCH FROM HERE. I WANT FULL DETAILS ABOUT YOUR STRENGTH AND EQUIPMENT--NOW!
11-18

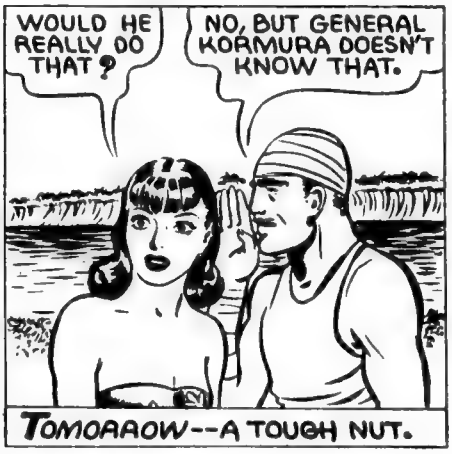
I REFUSE! I DEMAND THE COURTESY DUE MY RANK!
SINCE WHEN ARE YOU BIRDS WORRIED ABOUT COURTESY?


YOUR SOLDIERS TAUGHT THESE DEFENSELESS PEOPLE COURTESY --JAP STYLE! NOW--THEY'RE ARMED--AND READY TO RETURN COURTESIES --IN SPADES! SO START TALKING, GENERAL!

I'M A SOLDIER-- A GENERAL! I DEMAND THAT PROPER MILITARY PROCEDURE BE OBSERVED!
I'M NO SOLDIER --THIS IS THE JUNGLE!

ALL I KNOW OF MILITARY PROCEDURE I'VE LEARNED FROM WATCHING YOU JAPS AT WORK! SO START TALKING--
11-19

--OR I'LL STUFF YOU HEAD-FIRST INTO THAT EIGHT-INCH GUN AND BLOW YOU ACROSS THE RIVER!


WOULD HE REALLY DO THAT?
NO, BUT GENERAL KORMURA DOESN'T KNOW THAT.
TOMORROW--A TOUGH NUT.

DO WHAT YOU WILL-- I GIVE YOU NO INFORMATION!

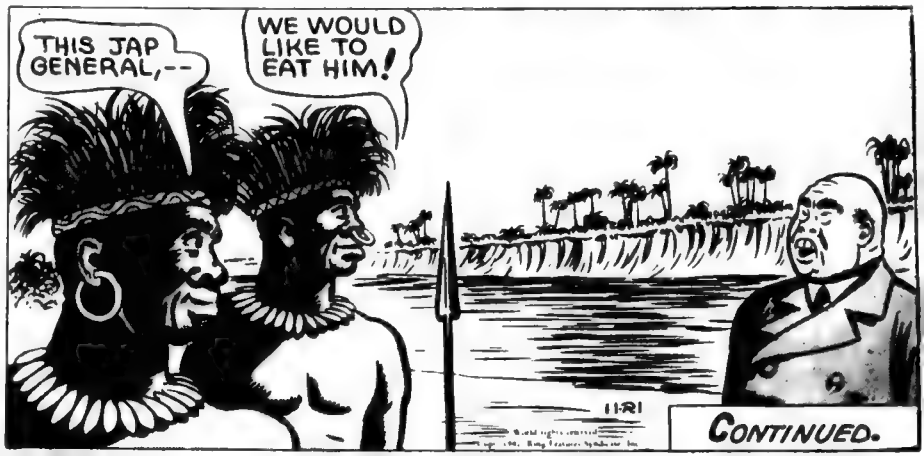
MANY OF THESE JAPS ARE FANATICS--THIS ONE'S A SPECIALLY TOUGH NUT--BUT I THINK I CAN CRACK HIM.
HOW?

11-20

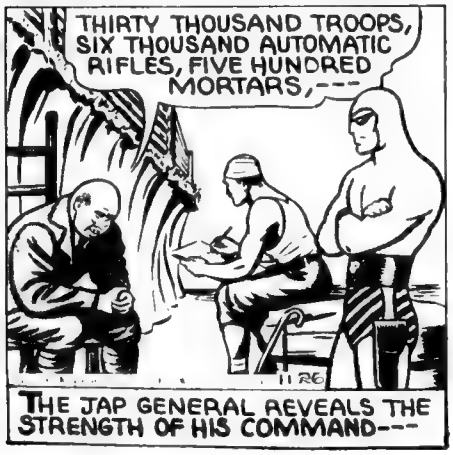
WHAT'S UP ON THE OOLAN?

A SPECIAL FAVOR, OH GHOST WHO WALKS.
SPEAK.

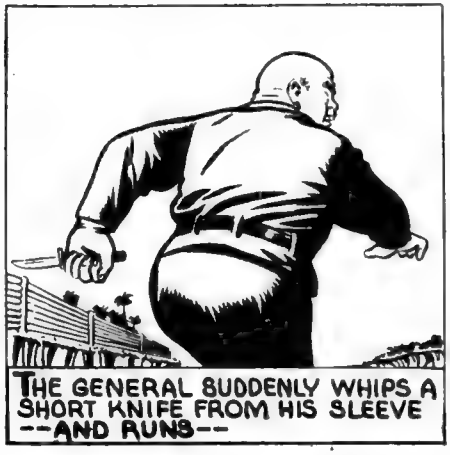
BECAUSE OF YOUR LAW, WE HAVE LONG GIVEN UP OUR TRIBAL CUSTOM-
YEARS HAVE PASSED SINCE WE HUNTED LONG PIG. BUT MAY--MAY WE --JUST THIS ONCE--?


THIS JAP GENERAL,--
WE WOULD LIKE TO EAT HIM!
11-21
CONTINUED.

TWO LLONGO WARRIORS ASK THE PRIVILEGE OF EATING THE JAP GENERAL
11-23
SINCE THIS IS A SPECIAL FEAST DAY OF THE THIRTEENTH MOON, I GRANT YOUR REQUEST.
WE THANK YOU. OH, GHOST WHO WALKS.
NO--NO--!
COME, LONG PIG.
THEY CAN'T EAT HIM!
NO ACCOUNTING FOR TASTE.
NO--NO--!
HIM FAT ONE.
JUICY.
11-24
YOU CAN'T FOOL ME-- YOU'RE NOT REALLY GOING TO--OH--
HE WILL BE TENDER--
--IF HE ISN'T TOO WELL-DONE. LIGHT THE FAGGOTS!
NO--NO--I'LL TELL YOU--WHAT YOU WANT TO KNOW--
BETTER TALK WHILE YOU CAN--
IMAGINE--HE ACTUALLY THOUGHT WE WERE GOING TO EAT HIM!
TRULY THOSE JAPS MUST BE SAVAGES!
11-25


THIRTY THOUSAND TROOPS, SIX THOUSAND AUTOMATIC RIFLES, FIVE HUNDRED MORTARS,---
THE JAP GENERAL REVEALS THE STRENGTH OF HIS COMMAND---

THAT IS ALL. ARE YOU FINISHED WITH ME?
YES.

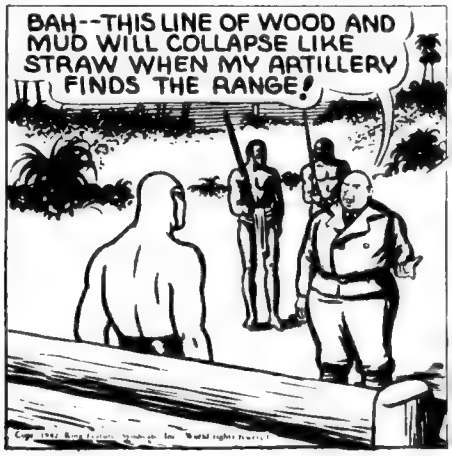

THE GENERAL SUDDENLY WHIPS A SHORT KNIFE FROM HIS SLEEVE --AND RUNS--

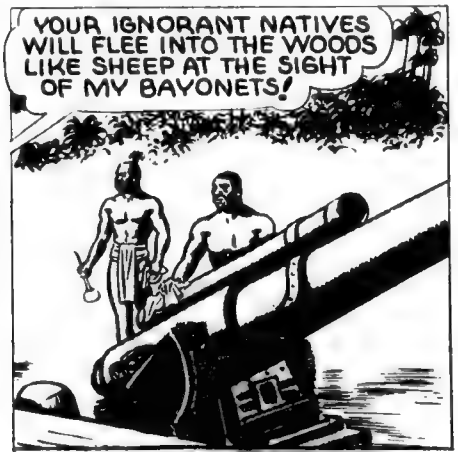
NO--!

NO HARA-KIRI HERE, GENERAL. WE JUST SWEPT THIS BEACH--
I DISGRACED MY UNIFORM --I MUST DIE--

NO--I HAVE OTHER PLANS FOR YOU. YOU WILL BE SENT TO A HUT FAR BEHIND THE LINES-- AND KEPT AS A PRISONER OF WAR.

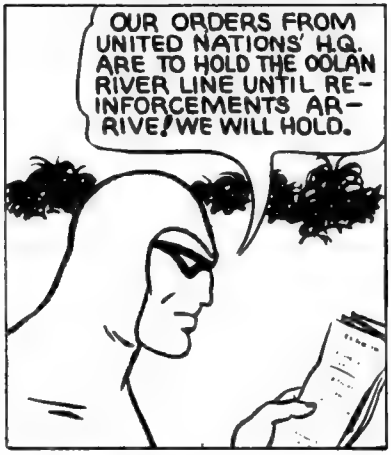
THESE TWO MEN SAW THEIR FAMILIES SLAUGHTERED BY YOUR SOLDIERS. THEY WILL GUARD YOU WELL!


BAH--THIS LINE OF WOOD AND MUD WILL COLLAPSE LIKE STRAW WHEN MY ARTILLERY FINDS THE RANGE!


YOUR IGNORANT NATIVES WILL FLEE INTO THE WOODS LIKE SHEEP AT THE SIGHT OF MY BAYONETS!

MY TURN WILL COME! MY TURN WILL COME!
WE'LL SEE, GENERAL KOMURA--
NEXT WEEK: BATTLE OF THE OOLAN.

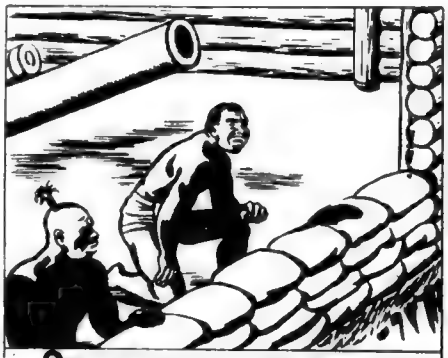
THIRTY THOUSAND JAP TROOPS--PONTOONS, TANKS, PARATROOPS--WHEW--WHAT CAN WE DO AGAINST ALL THAT?
11 30


OUR ORDERS FROM UNITED NATIONS' H.Q. ARE TO HOLD THE OOLAN RIVER LINE UNTIL REINFORCEMENTS ARRIVE! WE WILL HOLD.

BUT, MAN--THOSE FIGURES ADD UP TOO HIGH! BESIDES--WHAT IF THE REINFORCEMENTS DON'T ARRIVE--?

WE WILL HOLD!

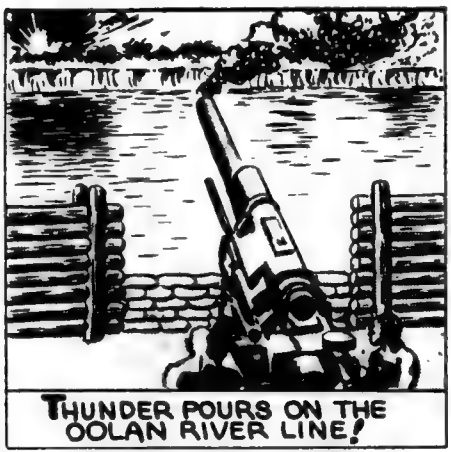
THE JUNGLE IS TENSE--WAITING--FROM THE TREES COMES THE NERVOUS CHATTER OF BIRDS AND MONKEYS--

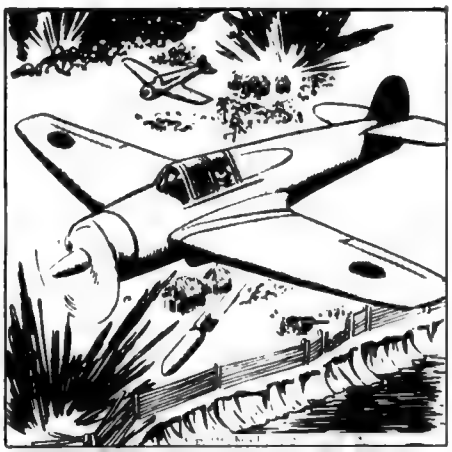

ON THE OOLAN LINE, THE GUNNERS WAIT, SILENT, POISED--THE RIVER LAPS SOFTLY ON THE BEACH--

ALL ARE WAITING--WAITING--THEN, SOMEWHERE ACROSS THE RIVER, A WHISTLE BLOWS--

12-1
THEN--THE SKY SEEMS TO CRACK OPEN--THE EARTH SHAKES--AS PANDEMONIUM BREAKS LOOSE!

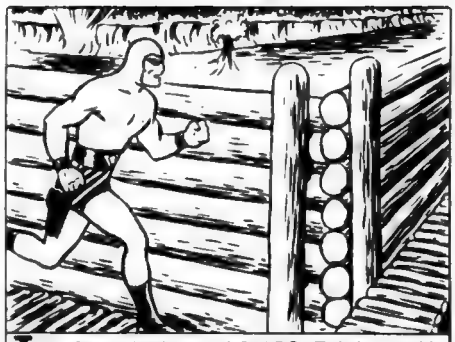
INTO THE DUGOUT! THIS IS IT!
12 2


THUNDER POURS ON THE OOLAN RIVER LINE!



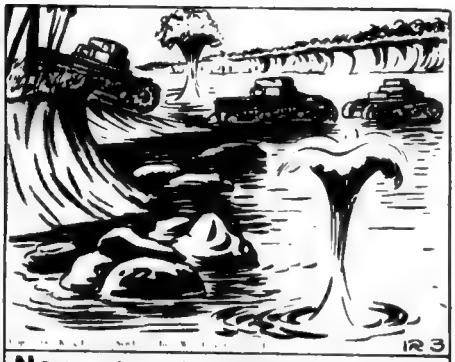
JAP TROOPS POUR DOWN THE OPPOSITE BANKS OF THE OOLAN--ONTO RAFTS--

AS JAP TROOPS ATTEMPT TO CROSS THE RIVER ON RAFTS, THE COOL NATIVE GUNNERS POUR LEAD AT THEM--



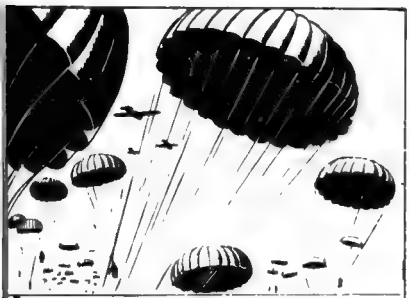
THE PHANTOM DASHES BACK AND FORTH ALONG THE OOLAN LINE-- DRIVING HIS GUNNERS -- INSPIRING THEM WITH HIS DARING!

AS GUNNERS FALL, HE PLUGS ONE HOLE AFTER ANOTHER UNTIL REPLACEMENTS CAN REACH HIM --THE FURY OF SOUND CONTINUES WITHOUT LET-UP!

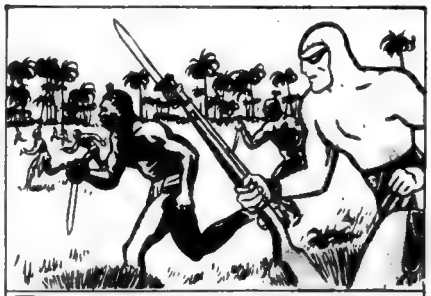


NOW--A NEW DANGER--JAP TANKS ARE CROSSING A FORD IN AN ATTEMPT TO FLANK THE OOLAN LINE!

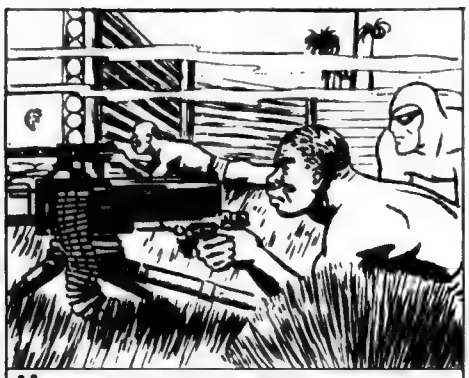
JAP TANKS CROSSING THE FORD, EH? THE PHANTOM IS READY FOR THEM.



PARATROOPS--LANDING BEHIND THE LINES? READY FOR THEM, TOO! FOR FAT GENERAL KORMURA, FEARING THE COOKPOT OF THE LLONGOS, REVEALED ALL THE ATTACK PLANS.

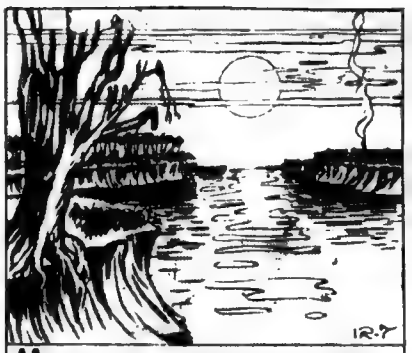


THOSE PARATROOPS THAT REACH TERRA FIRMA ARE MET WITH BAYONETS! A BAYONET IS LIKE A SPEAR--AND THE OOLAN NATIVES ARE SPEARMEN FROM WAY BACK!



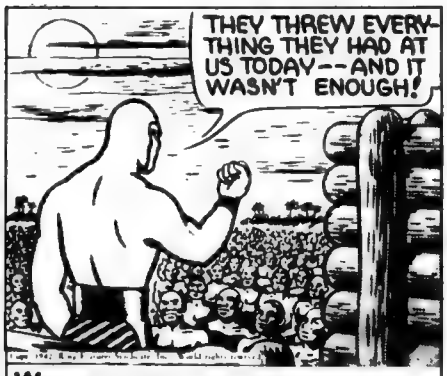
UNDER THE TERRIFIC JAP ON-SLAUGHT, THE OOLAN RIVER LINE TREMBLES, BENDS AND SHAKES--BUT IT HOLDS!

IN DESPERATION, THE JAPS ATTEMPT A CROSSING--THEIR PONTOONS ARE BLOWN SKY-HIGH BY THE SHARP-EYED NATIVE GUNNERS--



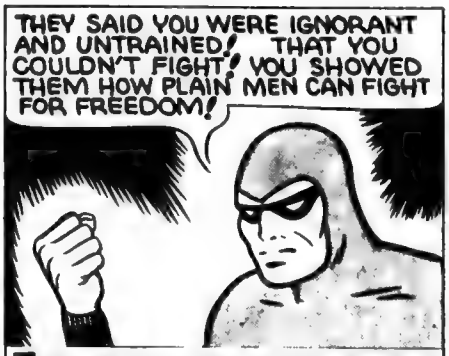
NOW IT IS NIGHT ON THE RIVER. THE JAPS WITHDRAW --NOT ONE HAS CROSSED THE OOLAN THAT RUNS RED WITH THEIR BLOOD--

NIGHT ON THE OOLAN, AS DIANA AND BYRON LISTEN TO THE PHANTOM TALK TO THE MEN OF OOLAN--AN INSPIRING MOMENT THAT THEY WILL REMEMBER FOR THE REST OF THEIR LIVES.



WEARY, DISCOURAGED BY THE FRIGHTFUL ODDS, THE MEN OF OOLAN LISTEN.

IR-9



THEY LISTEN, AND THE STRENGTH OF THE PHANTOM STIRS THEM--THEIR WEARINESS AND WOUNDS ARE FORGOTTEN--

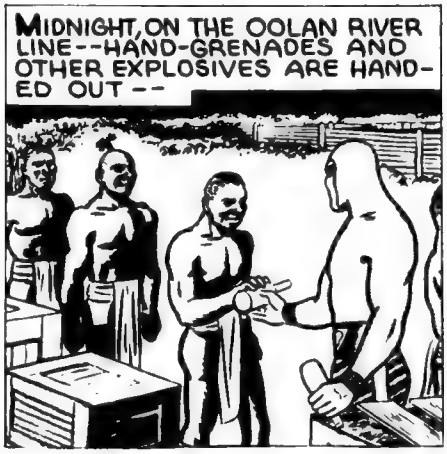
A MIGHTY CHEER FILLS THE JUNGLE NIGHT! ACROSS THE OOLAN, THE JAPS HEAR--AND WONDER!

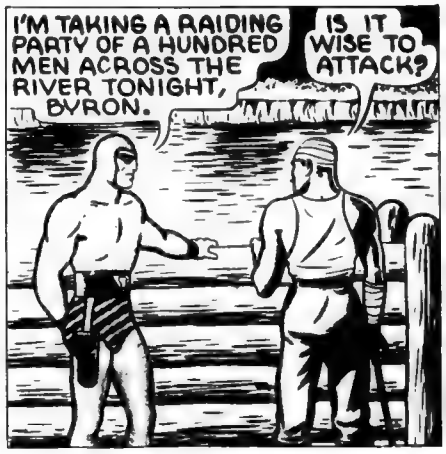
YOU MUST SLEEP --YOU ARE TIRED -- YOU HAVEN'T EATEN---
FIRST, I MUST CHECK OUR LINES--
TR-10

YOU ARE THE ONE WHO MUST SLEEP--IF ONLY YOU WERE OUT OF THIS--SAFE SOMEWHERE, FAR AWAY--
I'M HERE ---WITH YOU--AND I'M GLAD--

SLEEP NOW--AND WHEN YOU AWAKE --REMEMBER THAT I HAVE ALWAYS LOVED YOU, DIANA.
THAT'S THE FIRST TIME --YOU'VE EVER SAID THAT--

HE SPOKE--AS IF HE NEVER EXPECTED TO SEE ME AGAIN. OH--I'M JUST IMAGINING THINGS--


MIDNIGHT, ON THE OOLAN RIVER LINE--HAND-GRENADES AND OTHER EXPLOSIVES ARE HANDED OUT--


I'M TAKING A RAIDING PARTY OF A HUNDRED MEN ACROSS THE RIVER TONIGHT, BYRON.
IS IT WISE TO ATTACK?

WE MUST, BEFORE THEY CAN REORGANIZE. WE MAY NOT SUCCEED, BUT WE MUST TRY. I'M LEAVING YOU IN COMMAND HERE--
TR-11

IF I DON'T COME BACK--TAKE CARE OF HER--

NIGHT RAID! THE COMMANDOS OF OOLAN WADE SILENTLY INTO THE DARK RIVER--
TR-12

DID I DREAM THAT HE KISSED ME?- NO--HE WAS HERE--

HE CAN'T GO OVER THERE--WE MUST STOP HIM!
ALL WE CAN DO IS WAIT--AND HOPE--
NEXT WEEK: THE JUNGLE COMMANDOS.

THE COMMANDOS OF THE OOLAN CROSS THE RIVER INTO THE JAP LINES!

THE NATIVES MOVE RAPIDLY THRU THE LINES--THIS KIND OF WARFARE IS DUCKSOUP FOR THEM--

AND AS THE JAP BRAIN DEPARTMENT PLOTS ITS STRATEGY FOR THE COMING DAY--

AS THE PHANTOM NEARS THE "STRATEGY" TENT OF THE JAP FORCES, A SENTRY SPOTS HIM --AND YELLS--

THE PHANTOM POTS THE SENTRY--

THEN HURLS A GRENADE AT THE BRAIN DEPARTMENT--

ACROSS THE RIVER, DIANA AND BYRON SEE THE FLASH--HEAR THE EXPLOSION -- AND THE SECRET RAID IS A SECRET NO LONGER!

THE JAPS START A HEAVY ARTILLERY BARRAGE ACROSS THE RIVER!

THEN BEHIND THE OOLAN LINE--

MAJOR KIRK!
CAPTAIN BYRON! YOU PEOPLE HAVE DONE A MAGNIFICENT JOB, HOLDING THIS LINE!

TWO ARMOURED DIVISIONS ARE AN HOUR AWAY. THREE BOMBER FLIGHTS SHOULD BE OVER HERE IN FIVE MINUTES!

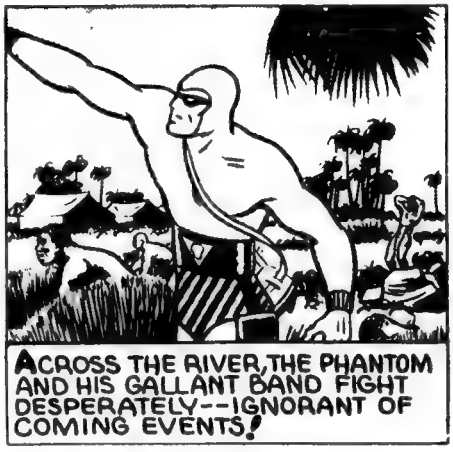
IT'S TOO GOOD TO BE TRUE!
OUR BOMBERS WILL BLAST EVERY INCH OF THOSE WOODS!
12-17

WE MUST KNOW THE EXACT LOCATION OF THE ENEMY, SO WE CAN RADIO OUR BOMBERS!
BUT THEY CAN'T --BOMB NOW-- HE'S OVER THERE--!

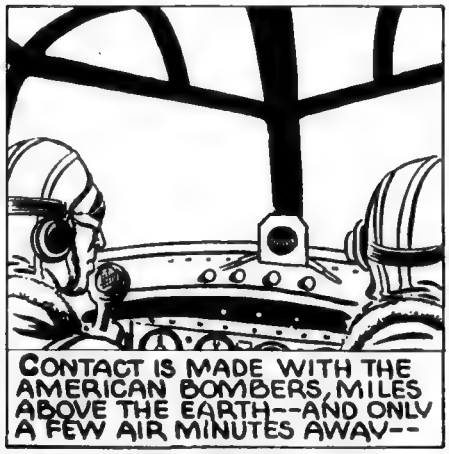
WHO-- IS WHERE?
THE--THE PHANTOM --WITH A RAIDING PARTY--ACROSS THE RIVER.
12-18

THERE'S NO TIME TO WASTE, CAPTAIN! WHERE IS THE ENEMY CONCENTRATED?
DIRECTLY ACROSS THE RIVER, A MILE IN DEPTH, A HALF MILE WIDE.

WE'VE GOT ENOUGH AIRPOWER TO COVER EVERY YARD OF THOSE WOODS!


ACROSS THE RIVER, THE PHANTOM AND HIS GALLANT BAND FIGHT DESPERATELY--IGNORANT OF COMING EVENTS!

CALLING FLIGHT 12, CALLING FLIGHT 12.
AT THE OOLAN LINE--


CONTACT IS MADE WITH THE AMERICAN BOMBERS, MILES ABOVE THE EARTH--AND ONLY A FEW AIR MINUTES AWAY--

BYRON! WE MUST GIVE HIM WARNING--AND A CHANCE TO ESCAPE!
HOW CAN WE WARN HIM WITHOUT WARNING THE JAPS? OUR BOMBERS HAVE COME AT LAST!

BUT HE-- HE--
WE MUST STRIKE WHILE THE IRON IS HOT! HE WOULD WANT IT THAT WAY!
12-19

AS THE FLIGHTS OF GREAT UNITED NATIONS BOMBERS NEAR THE OOLAN RIVER--

OUR BOMBERS WILL BE HERE IN A FEW MINUTES! THOSE WOODS WILL GO SKY HIGH! NOT ONE OF THE ENEMY IN THAT SECTOR WILL ESCAPE.

DIANA! WHERE ARE YOU GOING?

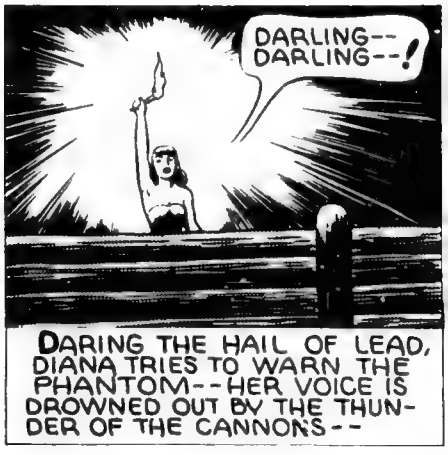
I'M GOING TO WARN HIM--!

DIANA CLIMBS UPON THE OOLAN WALL IN A DESPERATE ATTEMPT TO WARN THE PHANTOM WHO IS ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE RIVER --

DIANA -- COME DOWN! COME DOWN!

HE MUST SEE ME--HE MUST!

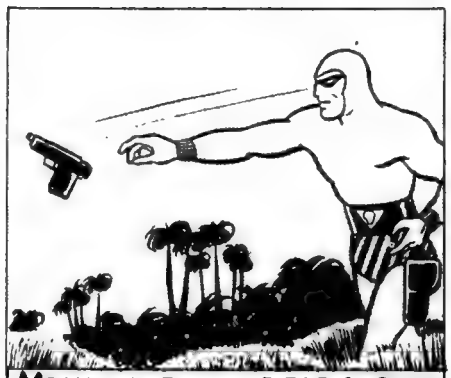
ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE RIVER, SOMEONE DOES SEE HER--A JAP SNIPER!

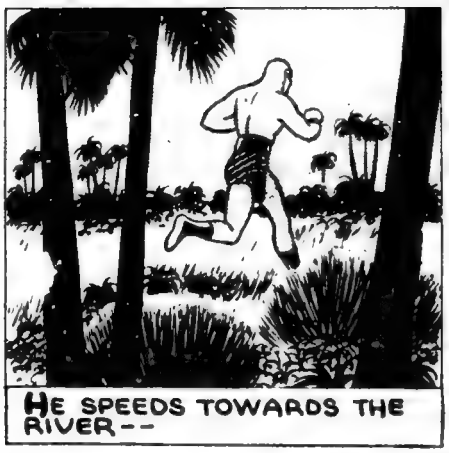

DARLING-- DARLING--!
DARING THE HAIL OF LEAD, DIANA TRIES TO WARN THE PHANTOM--HER VOICE IS DROWNED OUT BY THE THUNDER OF THE CANNONS--

ACROSS THE RIVER, THE JAP SNIPER AIMS CAREFULLY--- THEN--

MEANWHILE, IN THE JAP SECTOR, THE PHANTOM HAS SEEN NOTHING --HIS GRENADES ARE GONE-- HE'S DOWN TO HIS LAST BULLET--

DIANA--
DIANA--
IRR4

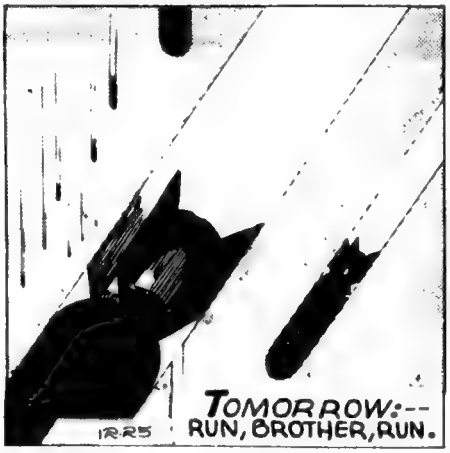

MEANWHILE, IN THE JAP SECTOR, THE PHANTOM HAS FIRED HIS LAST BULLET--


HE SPEEDS TOWARDS THE RIVER--

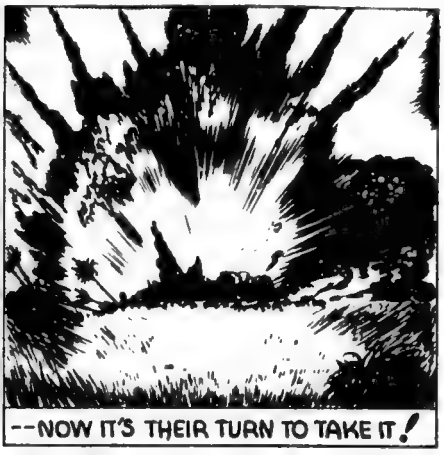
WHERE'D YOU LADS COME FROM? A GOPHER HOLE?
--AND STOPS ABRUPTLY, ALMOST ON THE SHARP POINTS OF JAPANESE BAYONETS--

LOOKS LIKE YOU'VE GOT ME-- BUT I'M GOING TO TAKE A COUPLE OF YOU WITH ME--

SUDDENLY, THE DARK SKY IS FILLED WITH THE ROAR OF GREAT BOMBERS--


TOMORROW:-- RUN, BROTHER, RUN.
IRR5

UNITED NATIONS' BOMBS! THE JAPS HAVE BEEN HANDING IT OUT FOR QUITE AWHILE--


--NOW IT'S THEIR TURN TO TAKE IT!

HE'S THERE!

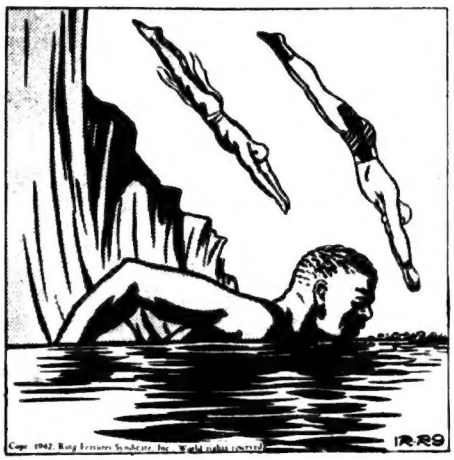
IRR6
CONTINUED.

THEY'RE CERTAINLY GETTING IT ACROSS THE RIVER! WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH THE GIRL?
BADLY WOUNDED--

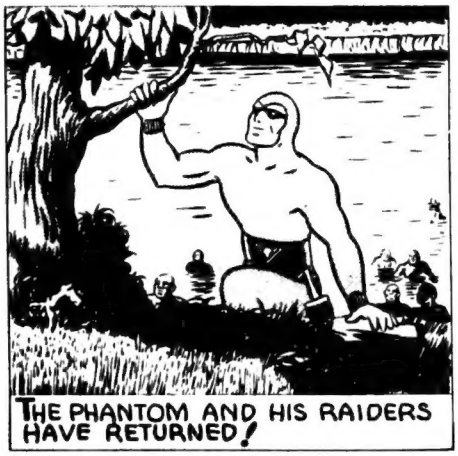
I'VE GOT TO GET HER BEHIND THE LINES, AS FAST AS POSSIBLE --THERE MAY BE A CHANCE--
I'LL FIND A DRIVER FOR YOU--

--IF SHE DOESN'T DIE--FIRST--

MEANWHILE, ACROSS THE RIVER, THE PHANTOM AND THE REMNANTS OF HIS RAIDING PARTY WEAVE AMONG THE EXPLOSIONS--TRYING TO REACH THE RIVER!



WHAT ARE THEY CHEERING FOR?
A GREAT SHOUT ECHOES UP AND DOWN THE OOLAN LINE--

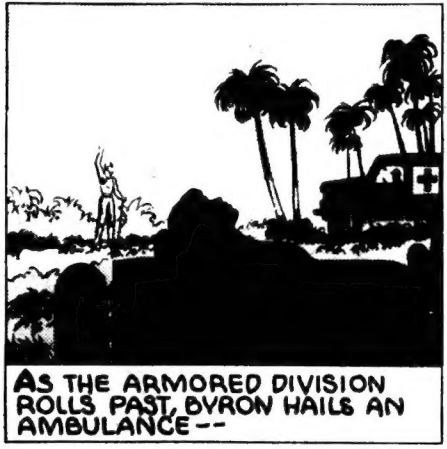

THE PHANTOM AND HIS RAIDERS HAVE RETURNED!

SO YOU ARE THE LEADER HERE! YOU'VE DONE A MAGNIFICENT JOB.
YOUR BOYS ARE DOING QUITE A JOB FROM THE SKY, THEMSELVES.

YOU GOT OUT JUST IN TIME. THAT PATTERN BOMBING WILL COVER EVERY YARD OF THOSE WOODS---

FAR TO THE REAR, BYRON'S CAR PASSES AN ARMORED DIVISION HEADED FOR THE OOLAN--

I'VE GOT TO DO SOMETHING NOW-- SHE'S BLEEDING TO DEATH!


AS THE ARMORED DIVISION ROLLS PAST, BYRON HAILS AN AMBULANCE--

AN OPERATING-ROOM IS QUICKLY IMPROVISED AT THE ROADSIDE--

AT THE OOLAN, THE BOMBING SUDDENLY STOPS--THE JAPS ARE KNOCKED OUT--A UNITED NATIONS' UNIT CROSSES THE RIVER TO MOP UP--

THIS'LL MAKE GOOD READING AT HOME.
RIGHT! NOW TO SEE BYRON-- AND DIANA!
TOMORROW: --EMPTY DUG-OUT.

HAVE YOU SEEN BYRON AND DIANA?
NO--

HAVE YOU SEEN BYRON AND DIANA?
NO--

OF COURSE--THEY'RE STILL IN THE DUGOUT-- ONLY PLACE THEY COULD BE--

DIANA--?

WHERE IS DIANA?
THE GIRL? SHE WAS TRYING TO SIGNAL YOU FROM THE WALL--A SNIPER GOT HER-- BAD HIT--

I'M AFRAID SHE'S DEAD.
CONTINUED:

WE'VE GIVEN THE GIRL A TRANSFUSION--GET HER BACK TO THE COAST AT ONCE--THERE'S A SLIGHT CHANCE--
FAR BEHIND THE OOLAN LINES, AT THE SIDE OF THE ROAD--

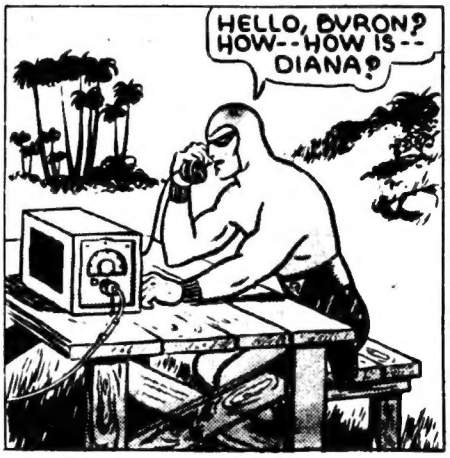
DIANA DEAD? NO--
YOU CAN'T LEAVE NOW. AS COMMANDANT OF THIS SECTOR, YOU MUST WAIT UNTIL OPERATIONS ARE COMPLETED.

THERE'S AN AMBULANCE OUTSIDE, SIR. THEY STOPPED FOR A GIRL A WAYS BACK--

WE GAVE HER A TRANSFUSION--CAPTAIN BYRON TOOK HER ON TO THE COAST--NOT MUCH CHANCE FOR HER--

WHO ON EARTH IS THAT MAN?
HE'S PART OF THIS JUNGLE, DOC. WE OWE HIM A GREAT DEAL.
1-4

WE'VE GOT OUR LINES THRU TO THE COAST NOW, SIR. YOU CAN REACH THE HOSPITAL.
GOOD.


HELLO, BYRON? HOW--HOW IS--DIANA?

SHE JUST CAME OFF THE TABLE. THEY SAY SHE'S GOT A FIGHTING CHANCE.
1-5

A FIGHTING CHANCE--THATS ALL SHE NEEDS!

THE UNITED NATIONS' UNITS MOP UP IN THE DEVASTATED WOODS--

1-6
THE STUNNED JAP SURVIVORS OF THE AIR BLITZ ARE GATHERED UP--

THE POWER OF THE JAPS IN BENGALI HAS BEEN BROKEN!

YOU'VE DONE AN AMAZING JOB.
WE HAD ORDERS TO HOLD. WE FOLLOWED ORDERS.

A MILITARY PLANE REACHES THE COAST--CARRYING A MYSTERIOUS PASSENGER--

HOW IS SHE, BYRON?
SHE'S HANGING ON. I'M FLYING HER BACK TO THE STATES. IT'S HER ONLY CHANCE.

I MUST RETURN TO OOLAN--TO TAKE CARE OF SOMETHING--BUT I'LL CATCH UP WITH YOU. YOU SAVED HER LIFE--I'LL NEVER FORGET.
TOMORROW--JUNGLE CELEBRATION.

THE JAPS HAVE BEEN DRIVEN OUT OF BENGALI! THE JUNGLE BEGINS A WILD CELEBRATION THAT IS TO LAST FOR WEEKS!

IN A CLEARING, THE PHANTOM DIRECTS A SECRET PROJECT--

THE PHANTOM HAS ASKED FOR AN UNVEILING CEREMONY. WHO'S HE GOING TO UNVEIL?
I DON'T KNOW. IF ANYBODY DESERVES A STATUE, HE DOES.
1-8

THE NEWSPAPERS OF THE WORLD ARE FILLED WITH STORIES OF THE MASKED LEADER OF OOLAN--YOU'RE A GREAT HERO--
THAT'S WHY I'VE ASKED FOR THIS CEREMONY.

A GREAT CROWD HAS GATHERED AT THE OOLAN LINE--

I GIVE YOU--IN MARBLE--THE REAL HERO OF THE OOLAN--THE MAN THEY SAID COULDN'T FIGHT--

1-9
THE JUNGLE WARRIOR OF THE OOLAN!